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BRIDGE PARTY

Span's 120th birthday bash is May 24

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

Borough President Marty Markowitz said this week he is going to throw a borough-wide 120th birthday bash for the iconic Brooklyn Bridge in May.

A concert at dusk, fireworks beneath the stars, and a network of buses touring the streets of the Borough of Kings to "introduce Brooklyn to Brooklyn" are just a small part of Markowitz's vision for the blow-out on May 24th, the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend, plans for which he will be finalizing with the mayor.

But this isn't the borough president's first attempt at a Brooklyn Bridge celebration.

Last year Markowitz came under fire when he cancelled a June 2 Brooklyn Celebration that was to take place on and around the bridge in response to unconfirmed threats against the bridge and the Statue of Liberty promulgated by an al Qaeda detainee.

On his weekly radio show last June, Mayor Michael Bloomberg lambasted Markowitz, saying "you've got to stand up in practice, not just talk about others standing up. And if there was ever a time to hold a ceremony on the Brooklyn Bridge, it is when terrorists threaten the structure, not the reverse."

Asked whether this year's festivities would be cancelled if there was another terrorist threat, Markowitz spokesman Andy Ross would only say, "We will be announcing all of our plans shortly."

The last big bash for the bridge was the centennial of its opening, on May 24, 1983. Nearly 1.5 million spectators gathered to watch as an estimated 18,000 revelers marched across the bridge's roadway, many of them dressed in 19th-century regalia.

A commissioned symphony and Fourth of July-like fireworks display capped the day's event.

For 18 years, Markowitz's predecessor, Howard Golden, threw a "Welcome Back to Brooklyn" festival honoring Brooklyn natives who had achieved renown. It was usually held in June, near Brooklyn Day. But in his first couple of months as borough president, Markowitz proclaimed "Welcome Back" dead in the water.

"I think 'Welcome Back to Brooklyn' had run its course," Markowitz said last February.

He then planned a Brooklyn celebration based around the bridge, which was canceled.

Drenched

Getting across Adams Street at Joralemon Street Saturday was a bit more difficult than usual, thanks to the heavy rains and melting snow. The Brooklyn Papers / Tom Callan

E. River tolls under fire

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

There has been a lot of debate over the notion of tolling the East River bridges since Mayor Michael Bloomberg first proposed the idea in last year's preliminary budget. On Feb. 20, elected officials gathered on the Brooklyn Bridge to tell the mayor to forget it.

"If you believe this is a good idea, then I have a bridge to sell you," said Borough Park Councilman Simcha Felder.

Borough President Marty Markowitz assembled Brooklyn city and state legislators to stand firm in their resolution against bridge tolls.

"We now impose on our streets on Sundays parking fees … we're imposing an increase in taxes on everything in New York and now this is being suggested," Markowitz said. "You know what happens when people get fed up with life being more challenging? They leave."

See **TOLLS** on page 6

Borough President Marty Markowitz leads rally against East River tolls on Brooklyn Bridge Thursday. Kathryn Kirk

Condom-mania

Pols seek hotel-rubber stamp of approval

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

State Senate Democrats could soon be chanting "hotel, motel, Holiday Inn" in the state capital.

Just in time for National Condom Week, state Sen. Velmanette Montgomery — who represents portions of Clinton Hill, Boerum Hill, Fort Greene, Prospect Heights, Crown Heights, Red Hook and Park Slope — reintroduced a bill that would require hotels, motels and inns to supply condoms along with their standard amenities of toothpaste, soap and Bibles.

"It seems to me that every establishment in that category should have available, at their registration desk, condoms," Montgomery said.

State Sen. Carl Andrews, who represents Park Slope, Windsor Terrace and Sunset Park, has signed on as a co-sponsor.

The bill, which was first authored by Montgomery about 10 years ago, is part of a series of legislative initiatives that she has sponsored, co-sponsored or advocated that seeks to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS.

"The only obstacle to this is the 'head in the sand' attitude towards everything related to sex," Montgomery said. "But it just happens to be that HIV and AIDS are sexually transmitted diseases. If we don't do everything possible to prevent the transmission of this deadly disease we're doing a disservice to our citizens."

The bill, she added, would not cost the state or the establishments a cent, because customers would have to pay for the condoms, just like many other personal amenities available for sale at hotels and motels.

"I think that would be a good idea," said Jon Kinyon,

See **CONDOMS** on page 5

Slope affordable zoning gets boost

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

Borough President Marty Markowitz this week approved a controversial amendment to a building-height-limiting zoning plan for Park Slope that would mandate affordable housing along Fourth Avenue.

In its recommendation report Borough Hall stated, "It is the borough president's policy to seek the inclusion of affordable housing whenever the purpose of a ULURP [Uniform Land Use Review Procedure] application that comes before him is to facilitate housing development."

Markowitz, who lives in Park Slope, urged that the affordable housing incentive put forth by the Fifth Avenue Committee, a non-profit affordable housing advocacy group, and Park Slope Councilman Bill DeBlasio "be thoroughly investigated" by the city. Councilman David Yassky, whose district includes Brooklyn Heights and a portion of Park Slope, and Councilwoman Sara Gonzalez, of Sunset Park, Red Hook and Park Slope, also support the proposal.

The proposition suggests limiting proposed development on Fourth Avenue, currently allowed up to 120 feet, to 80 feet unless the developer includes affordable housing.

Community Board 6 and the Park Slope Civic Council have lobbied for height limits for more than a decade. Both were critical of the affordable housing amendment, suggesting that it could ultimately cost the city housing and possibly hold up a much-needed zoning plan.

"Our concern is that the rezoning will get caught up in the politics of the day," said Jerry Armer, chairman of CB6. "If it's 'we want this and we want that,' it's likely to never happen."

The Department of City Planning, the lead agency on the ULURP application, responded to Markowitz's recommendation by holding a press conference on President Street, between Fourth and Fifth avenues Tuesday to

See **ZONING** on page 6

The Brooklyn Papers / Craig Mangin

City Planning Director Amanda Burden, Community Board 6 District Manager Craig Hammerman, and CB6 Chairman Jerry Armer at site of Fourth Avenue and Seventh Street construction that new zoning would limit.

Building at 200 Tillary Street, which is being considered for use as a homeless shelter. BP / Tom Callan

Nabes seek to shut Atlantic Youth Ctr.

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

Boerum Hill community groups say they are done talking with representatives of the Atlantic Avenue Transitional Center, a halfway house for youths who cannot be returned to their homes because of abuse, neglect or abandonment that has been a source of neighborhood problems.

Efforts on the part of the new leadership at the youth center have met with a cold shoulder from community groups that remain unwavering in their stance to have the center shut down because of a rash of violent incidents over the past few years.

Valerie Gold, the new director of the center, has been a regular presence at 84th Precinct Community Council meetings, since taking over late last year.

But when Gold was introduced at a precinct council meeting at St. Francis College in Brooklyn Heights last month, Leslie Lewis, president of the precinct council, declined to allow her speaking time saying that the issue of the transitional center has been discussed "ad nauseam."

"There was no point," Lewis told The Brooklyn Papers after the meeting. "We've had it up to the chin because we believe they're not capable of fixing it."

Heloise Gruneberg, president of the Boerum Hill Association — who had her purse snatched by a resident of the center in June — penned a Jan. 15 letter to Mayor Michael Bloomberg calling the center "a source of problems for the neighborhood for over 25 years."

Recently the center was a problem for itself as a resident of the center was arrested for assaulting a staff member.

On Dec. 2, a 17-year-old resident got into an argument with staff members and kicked open a door. A five-months-pregnant employee of the center was on the other side of the door and was knocked over from the blow, striking her stomach against a nearby table, police said.

The incident was not reported until six weeks later and the resident was arrested. He has since been transferred to another facility.

The city's Administration for Children's Services (ACS), which runs the center, could not confirm by press time why the incident was not reported until Jan. 13.

Gold was unable to comment about the center at the community council meeting due to the policy of ACS to refer questions to the agency's press department.

MacLean Guthrie, an ACS spokeswoman, told The Papers, "Incidents involving residents that require police attention has decreased. The reduction

See **CENTER** on page 4

Homeless shelter for 200 Tillary

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

A Brooklyn-based non-profit organization is circulating plans to open a homeless shelter in Downtown Brooklyn.

Consumer Information and Dispute Resolution Inc. (CIDR), which runs services for people with disabilities, has informed Community Board 2 and local activists of a plan to convert 200 Tillary St. at Prince Street into a shelter and counseling facility for up to 200 homeless women with medical disabilities referred by the city Department of Homeless Services.

Councilman James Davis, who has fought against other shelters coming into nearby Prospect Heights and

See **SHELTER** on page 5

This July 2001 photo of the Brooklyn Bridge and the World Trade Center, by Brooklyn Papers photographer Tom Callan will be auctioned off Friday. The Brooklyn Papers / Tom Callan

'Candy Factory' auction to feature Papers photog

The Brooklyn Papers

On Friday, Feb. 28, from 6 pm to 9 pm, in the lobby of their building, residents of 20 Henry St., better known as the "Candy Factory," will auction off works of art including paintings, woodcuts, photography, sculptures and digital artwork to raise money for their legal fund.

The tenants, most of whom pay below market rate, are facing possible eviction as the owner of the building exercises his right to opt out of the Mitchell-Lama program. They are trying to stop that action.

Among the works will be photographs from Brooklyn Papers photographer Tom Callan, like his July 2001 shot of the Brooklyn Bridge and Manhattan skyline at night (at left).

Tom Callan The Brooklyn Papers / Tom Callan

District 15: Programs at John Jay will remain

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

The Secondary School for Law, Journalism and Research, better known as the former John Jay HS in Park Slope, has been left off the chancellor's list of top-performing public schools that are exempt from the coming year's uniform curriculum, but, administrators say, the specialized program is not dead yet.

"Now the three schools will fall under [the instructional division] umbrella," said George Greenfield, executive assistant to District 15 Superintendent Carmen Farina. "Less red tape and everybody's on the same page."

Although it was envisioned as a model for the city, the replacement for the troubled John Jay, on Seventh Avenue between Fourth and Fifth streets, suffered in its first year in 2001-2002 under an often jumbled leadership structure.

A district representative for the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) told The Brooklyn Papers last May, "You have the high school people doing their thing and middle school people doing their thing and there's no coordination going from grade six through nine."

Under the specialized program, which allowed for the attrition of current John Jay students as they graduated, teachers were forced to move between classrooms, counselors shared rooms and confusion existed between the departments. At one point there was only one gym teacher supervising approximately 120 children.

"There have been real problems given that there's several different leaderships in the school," said Park Slope Councilman Bill DeBlasio, who helped develop the program while a member of Community School Board 15. "And it will unquestionably help the operations of the school to have it under one leader."

The school is currently run through a collaboration between Brooklyn and Staten Island Schools (BASIS) and Community School District 15, covering the neighborhoods of Park Slope, Carroll Gardens, Red Hook, Cobble Hill, Sunset Park, Gowanus and Windsor Terrace.

The idea of the program was to integrate three middle-schools with specialized programs but minuscule resources — the Institute for Law, the Manuel de Dios Unanue Academy of Journalism and the Institute for Research for Natural and Social Sciences — into John Jay to create a new sixth-grade-through-12-grade program.

This coming September, instead of being a collaboration between two different bureaucracies, the program will reopen as three different schools run by the reorganized Department of Education's Instructional Division 8, which will be headed by Farina.

Instructional Division 8 will include Community School Districts 13, 14, 15 and 16, which include Brooklyn Heights, Park Slope, Cobble Hill, Carroll Gardens, Sunset Park, Red Hook, Kensington, Windsor Terrace, Boerum Hill, Downtown Brooklyn, Fort Greene, DUMBO, Prospect Heights, Crown Heights, Williamsburg, Greenpoint and portions of Bedford-Stuyvesant, with 82,593 students.

"The original vision we had three of four years ago was that this would be a real community high school for all the neighborhoods in District 15," DeBlasio said. "It's clear that having all the schools under the umbrella of this region in the Department of Education will help a lot."

Despite the specialized curricula of the three programs, however, the administrators argued that the core of the programs would not change. Greenfield said, adding that there was room to maintain the programs.

Kevin Ortiz, a spokesman for the Department of Education, said that while literacy and math curriculum would be mandated, specialized schools, such as Law, Journalism and Research, would remain.

Much of the curricula that is being mandated in the area of mathematics and English has already been implemented in District 15, therefore, the school board members said, not much is expected to change.

"In District 15, we're kind of lucky because all of our schools use the curriculum that the chancellor has proposed," said Margaret Kelley, the president of Community School Board 15, which will be disbanded under the restructuring. "Whether it's on the list or not, nothing could change because we've been using it for the past couple of years."

DeBlasio said the only troubling facet of the plan is that the School for Research, which has been testing higher than the other two programs, was not included on the list of top-performing schools.

"It's my hope that Research will be able to appeal and get on that list," DeBlasio said.

Schools that have a proven academic record can petition for a waiver of either the literacy or math portions of the new core curriculum or both. Schools must send the petitions by March 3, and the Department of Education will announce its decision on waivers by April 1.

BAMland ready to start leasing to local arts groups

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

The Brooklyn Academy of Music Local Development Corporation is ready to start leasing the first of its developments in the planned Fort Greene cultural district.

"Eighty Arts will create affordable space and a stable environment where a diverse mix of visual, performing and media arts groups can pursue on their missions and collaborate with their colleagues," said Harvey Lichtenstein, chairman of the BAM LDC, about the former state office building at 80 Hanson Place.

The LDC will begin accepting lease applications this week.

Located on the corner of Hanson Place and South Portland Avenue, the eight-story, 30,000-square-foot building will be divvied up into offices, ranging in size from 400 square feet to 3,000 square feet, for more than 20 arts groups at below-market rent. The building, which will be renamed 80 Arts, will also feature space for shared facilities, such as conference rooms, rehearsal space and a landscaped garden.

Envisioned as a flagship for the rest of the planned BAM Cultural District, the selection criteria for 80 Hanson Place requires that applicants have official non-profit status; be actively engaged in artistic production or presentation; have been in operation for at least three years with a demonstrated continuity within its board of directors; and offer some type of community program.

The LDC has promised that Brooklyn organizations will receive priority.

Jeanne Lutfy, president of the BAM LDC, said the project was inspired by the Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York (ART/NY), a service organization for New York City's not-for-profit theater groups, at 138 South Oxford St. That 19,000-square-foot building houses 20 small companies, which rent offices at a rate of $12 a square foot including utilities. The rehearsal studios and the second-floor "Great Room," which frequently hosts local civic and community groups, attracts an estimated 2,000 visitors annually.

"When we saw how quickly that space was rented we realized there is really a huge need for small arts organizations to find office space," Lutfy said.

The cultural district is a planned $630 million project that is slated to include arts space, housing and retail developments in new construction over four parking lots surrounding BAM.

Of that, roughly $80 million in public funds will provide an average 15 percent subsidy to arts groups for capital expenses on new construction.

The Hanson Place building, will feature onsite security, 24-hour access, new windows and elevatorss.

The architect for the project is Open Office, a Manhattan-based architectural firm.

The building is anticipated to be open in December and the LDC hopes arts groups will be able to assume their space shortly after, Lutfy said.

Spring Fitness Guide

Now is the time to get in shape

The Brooklyn Papers

With three months to bathing suit weather, now's the time to start getting your body ready for the summer. Here are the people to talk to:

Eastern Athletic

Take $250 off initiation fee and pay less than $75 per month when you join during March. EAC's three Brooklyn clubs offer the best selection of amenities.

The 75,000-square-foot Brooklyn Heights club is home to the Shibumi Spa, and offers racquetball, squash, full court basketball, a boxing ring, a 75-foot swimming pool, wallyball, fencing, kick boxing, and dozens of children's sports programs (plus hoards of cardio machines, free weights, and every class you can imagine).

The Park Slope club is 35,000 square feet with half-court basketball, a 40-foot swimming pool.

The 15,000-square-foot Metrotech club has a 75-foot lap pool and also offers some spa services, such as massage.

• 43 Clark St. between Henry and Hicks, (718) 625-0500. Open weekdays 6:30 am to 11:30 pm, weekends 9 am to 7:30 pm,

• 17 Eastern Parkway at Grand Army Plaza, (718) 789-4600. Open weekdays 6:30 am to 10:30 pm (Friday till 6 pm), Saturday 1 to 7:30 pm, Sunday 9-7:30 pm.

• 333 Adams St., fourth floor of the Marriott, (718) 330-0007. Weekdays 6 am to 10:30 pm, weekends 9 am to 7:30 pm.

Harbor Fitness

Harbor's 20,000-square-foot Park Slope club features more than 70 cardio machines, free weights, classes in yoga, pilates, spinning, and kick boxing.

Make use of the free personal training, free nutritional consultation and on-site childcare.

• 191 15th St., off Fifth Avenue, (718) 965-6200. Open Monday through Thursday 5 am till midnight, Friday 5 am to 10 pm, weekends 7 am to 9 pm.

• 9215 Fourth Ave. at 92nd Street, (718) 238-9400. Open 24 hours.

Park Slope Sports Club

Get started for $79 with April free when you join during March. PSSC is opening a studio dedicated strictly to pilates and yoga this spring, offering an extensive schedule of mat Pilates classes and featuring reformer machines (private sessions available, too).

This 15,000-square-foot club is packed with cardio and strength training machines and free weights, too. You may also utilize the basketball, tennis and swimming facilities at their Paerdegat Club in Canarsie.

• 330 Flatbush Ave., between Park and Sterling places, (718) 783-5152. Open seven days, 5:30 am to 11 pm.

Their Web site is www.fitnessventures.net

Curves for Women

During March, take 60 percent off initiation fee when you join.

Curves is a fitness and weight loss program specifically geared towards women. Members do a 30 minute regimen that manager Loni Markman says would take an hour and a half in a conventional gym.

Cardio and strength training is done together, and special machines work two major muscle groups at the same time. The atmosphere is kept upbeat and cheery. Memberships start at $49 per month, and programs in meditation, yoga, self empowerment, and nutritional guidance are also offered.

• 375 Ninth St., corner Sixth Avenue, (718) 788-0003. Open weekdays 8 am to 1 pm and 3 pm to 8 pm (Tuesdays and Thursday till 9 pm), Saturday 9 am to 6 pm.

Their Web site is www.curevesparkslope.com

Lean On Me Bodyworks

Personal trainer Harold Pallacios' 30-minute sessions are customized for each client. Some want to work out with a professional each time, while others want a personalized workout they can do on their own.

Lifestyle coaching plays a part, too (meal planning, vitamin consultation, and prepared foods can be ordered as well).

• 85 Livingston St., inside Gold's Gym, between Boerum & Court streets, (718) 222-8713. Hours: 6 am to 9 pm.

Their Web site is www.leanonmebodyworks.com

Body Tonic

Body Tonic specializes in pilates and physioball in private and group settings. Pilates is a system of exercise that alternates tension and relaxation, giving strength and and stretch as you build muscle tone.

The physioball adds fun and greater range of motion to the workout.

• 150 Fifth Ave., between Douglass and DeGraw streets, (718) 622-2755. Open 7 days.

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BROOKLYN HEIGHTS SINCE 1976

Victim bashes Court St. thief

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

A thief made off with a purse and got a few lumps for his efforts on Feb. 20.

The victim, 32, said she was walking home along Court Street, from the Carroll Street G and F subway station, when the thief grabbed her from behind on Fourth Place.

It was shortly before 1 am. The attacker held something to the victim's neck, which she believed was a box cutter. Undeterred, the victim began to bash the thief over the head with her shopping bags, and the purse-snatcher grabbed her handbag and ran.

Clark bar

A man was arrested after allegedly attempting to holdup a convenience store with a metal bar.

A cashier, 25, told police that the suspect entered the store, on Clark Street at Henry Street, at 2 am on Feb. 19 bent on getting cash. The suspect allegedly demanded money and threatened to kill the employee. He said he would take everything in the store. The suspect then fled without taking anything.

Officers responded and nabbed a suspect, 36, nearby, with metal bar in tow, and took him into custody to introduce him to a whole new set of bars.

Water St. brawl

A 26-year-old man was attacked in a bar on Water Street, between New Dock and Main streets.

The victim told police that around 3 am on Feb. 15, he got into an argument with four men who then struck him across the face with an unknown object. The victim fell to the floor and was then kicked, punched and struck with a beer bottle, according to witnesses.

Gas strike

A brazen thief threatened a gas station attendant and then threatened the pumps themselves in an attempted robbery on Feb. 19.

According to police, the suspect approached a gas station on Hamilton Avenue between Henry and Huntington streets, at 3:30 am, and told the cashier — who was in a booth and behind glass — to give him $300 or he would cut out the employee's eyes and kill him as he tried to go home. The cashier called 911.

Police said the suspect, 38, then brandished a knife and tried to cut the gas pumps before police arrived and arrested him.

Officer Andrea Saunders of the 76th Precinct made the bust.

Party shooter

Two people were shot in a beauty salon on Myrtle Avenue as people assembled for a get together inside the business.

At around 7 pm, on Feb. 22, the shooter entered the business, between Flatbush Avenue and Prince Street, and opened fire. One man, 41, was hit in the leg, arm and shoulder and a 36-year-old woman was struck in the arm.

Both victims survived.

84/76 Blotters

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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 21st day of February, 2003, bearing the Index Number NI000190/2003, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to: Assume the name of: Nycha Leia Zenderman. My present name is: Nancy Louise Zenderman a/k/a Nycha Leia Zenderman. My present address is: 144 Spencer Street, #302, Brooklyn, NY 11205. My place of birth is: Los Angeles, CA. My date of birth is: 08/12/47. BP9

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 20th day of February, 2003, bearing the Index Number NI000188/2003, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to: Assume the name of: John Ian Baldizzi. My present name is: John Ian McDermott. My present address is: 28 Throop Ave., Apt. #3R, Brooklyn, NY 11206. My place of birth is: Berea, Ohio. My date of birth is: 09/06/71. BP9

NOTICE OF SALE. SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS. MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., Plaintiff, Against DELTON PORTER, et al., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale duly entered 10/23/2002, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Foot of the Kings County Courthouse, facing Adams St., 360 Adams St., Brooklyn, NY on 4/2/2003 at 1:00PM premises known as 225 GRANT AVE., BROOKLYN, NY 11208. ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Section 13, Block 4136, Lot 7. Approximate amount of lien $269,287.20 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment Index# 46047/01. Leslie Drossman, Esq., Referee. Fein, Such & Crane, LLP, 1800 First Federal Plaza, Rochester, NY 14614. (585) 232-7400 Ext. 70. Dated: 2/10/2003. File#: Aunyc 237 cb. BP9-12

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS. NYCTL 1997-1 TRUST AND THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS COLLATERAL AGENT AND CUSTODIAN FOR THE NYCTL 1997-1 TRUST, Plaintiff against 1397 EASTERN PARKWAY CORP., et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and sale entered herein and dated November 1, 2000, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the foot of the courthouse steps facing Adams Street, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on the 4th day of April, 2003 at 11:00 AM premises lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, designated on the Tax Map of the City of New York for the Borough of Brooklyn, as said Tax Map was on November 27, 1972 as Section 5, Block 1475, Lot 10. Said premises known as 1397 EASTERN PARKWAY, BROOKLYN, NY. Approximate amount of lien $39,536.26 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index Number 1199/99. STEWART FINKELSTEIN, ESQ., Referee. Fischbein Badillo Wagner Harding, Attorney (s) for Plaintiff, 909 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022. (* BKLYN PAPE - *) BP9-12

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: THAT an application has been made to the Board of Standards and Appeals of the City of New York, under section 72-21 of the Zoning Resolution, by Friedman & Gotbaum, LLP, for New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services, owner; Two Trees Management Company, contract vendee. For a variation from the requirements of the Zoning Resolution so as to permit the proposed development of an eleven story mixed-use building, located in a C6-2A(DB) Special Downtown Brooklyn District, which does not comply with the zoning requirements, for base height,height, setback, rear yard, rear yard setback, retail continuity and lot coverage, is contrary to Z.R. §23-145, §23-663(b), §33-26, §35-24 and §101-10. On the premises: 121/35 Court Street, 211/25 Atlantic Avenue and 204/24 State Street, property fronts on Court Street, and is bounded by Atlantic Avenue and State Street, and is bounded by Atlantic Avenue and State Street, Block 277, Lot 8, Borough of Brooklyn. COMMUNITY BOARD #2BK. This application, Cal. No.: 284-02-BZ, has been calendared for Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 25, 2003, 1:30 P.M. session, 40 Rector Street, 6th floor Hearing Room "E", Borough of Manhattan. Interested persons or associations may appear at the hearing to present testimony regarding this application. All written objections or forms of consent should be filed five (5) days prior to the date of hearing, must be sworn to and the consenter/objector must describe the property he/she owns or resides in. Affidavits of consent or objections and all other papers to be filed with the Board of Standards and Appeals should be 8-1/2 x 11 inch paper. Copies of the two-sided Consent/Objection can be obtained without charge from the Board of Standards and Appeals, Applications Desk, 40 Rector Street, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10006. If the forms are to be supplied by mail, please provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request. This notice is published by the applicant in accordance with the rules of Procedure of the Board of Standards and Appeals, City of New York. Dated: February 20, 2003. FRIEDMAN & GOTBAUM, LLP, Applicant. BP9-10

NOTICE OF SALE. SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY. THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, AS TRUSTEE OF IMC HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 1997-7 UNDER THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 1997, Plaintiff vs. THOMAS MCINTYRE, ET AL, Defendants. Attorney(s) for Plaintiff: ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., Main Office: One Old Country Road, Suite 200, Carle Place, New York 11514 (516) 741-2585. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale entered herein on November 22, 2002, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at the 360 Adams Street, Room 261, Brooklyn, New York 11201, On the 13th day of March, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. Premises in Brooklyn, New York and described as follows: BEGINNING at the corner formed by the intersection of the northerly side of 64th Street with the westerly side of Fifth Avenue; RUNNING THENCE westerly along the northerly side of 64th Street, 75 feet; THENCE northerly parallel with Fifth Avenue and part of the distance through a party wall, 20 feet; THENCE easterly parallel with 64th Street and part of the distance through a party wall, 75 feet to the westerly side of Fifth Avenue; and THENCE southerly along the westerly side of Fifth Avenue, 20 feet to the corner, the point or place of BEGINNING. Premises known as 6324 5th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11220. Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale. Approximate amount of judgment $96,941.37 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 37202/01. Donald H. Greener, Esq., REFEREE. BP6-9

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Slope Ambulance Corps still rolling

By Beverley Wang
for The Brooklyn Papers

A vegan, a hacker and a 15-year old actor — what sounds like the opening line to a crummy joke is actually a lifeline to emergency aid in Park Slope.

Adam Armstrong-Silva, the vegan, Shane MacDougall, the hacker, and Isaac Lief, the young actor, are members of the Park Slope Volunteer Ambulance Corps (PSVAC), a grassroots emergency medical service patrolling and responding to calls in Park Slope, Cobble Hill, Brooklyn Heights, Prospect Park and Sunset Park since 1993.

Operating out of their Bergen Street base, the corps provides service at neighborhood events, on weeknights and around the clock on weekends. As members of the Fire Department's Mutual Aid Radio System, the corps were onsite during 9-11, provided first response during the recent blizzard and patrolled the neighborhood last week as Brooklyn firehouses responded to the fuel barge explosion on Staten Island.

"Everybody [in the corps] wants to help," said MacDougall, PSVAC president and a former full-time firefighter, but "there's nobody that's in emergency services that isn't [also] an adrenaline junkie."

Of amputations, bleeding, hemorrhaging, penetrating and blunt traumas, said crew chief Armstrong-Silva, the only situation he had yet to encounter was childbirth. He recalled an underground search for the severed arm of a transit worker struck by a subway.

"You kind of put your emotions on a shelf for a minute," he said, offering a sage piece of advice for amputations: "Make sure the limb goes to the same place as the patient."

"It's a lot of fun with the lights and sirens," said Lief, one of the corps' radio dispatchers, "but as much fun as it is, like, when I get on the radio, I'm not joking around." Lief joined the corps in 2001, when he was 14. With his braces and dense brown curls, he seems an unlikely dispatcher, but, said Armstrong-Silva, "He's one of the best."

By PSVAC Chairman Matthew Pintchik's count, the corps answered upwards of 500 calls last year, marking a 25 percent increase in calls from the previous year. "That makes us a substantial provider," said Pintchik.

"All community-based ambulance services, including Park Slope, are a valuable part of EMS," said Robert McCracken, chief of the Fire Department's Emergency Medical Service.

Volunteer or paid, all dispatchers and emergency medical technicians, or EMTs, in the state hold the same training credentials.

"You know you're not going to be a millionaire working in EMS," said Armstrong-Silva, a musician and Brooklyn Children's Museum employee who prefers the flexibility of volunteering. Fire Department EMTs earn a starting salary of $28,900.

Those interested in helping PSVAC out can join Borough President Marty Markowitz and director Terry Kinney (HBO's "Oz") at a fundraiser for the corps on Thursday, Feb. 27, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at 607 Second St., between Eighth Avenue and Prospect Park West.

Park Slope Volunteer Ambulance members (from left) Matthew Pintchik, Adam Armstrong-Silva, Devin Cohen, Samantha Neverson, Cassius the dog, Sammy Lichtenstein and Peter Taft. **The Brooklyn Papers** / Brad Horrigan

Fire escape peepers

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

A pair of incidents featured noisy men leering into two women's windows in Park Slope.

On Feb. 12, the first victim, 58, was in her Fourth Avenue home between 13th and 14th streets, at 3:10 pm, when she heard a noise at her front window. She investigated and saw a man standing on her fire escape. He had apparently knocked the window frame off track, she told police.

Upon being spotted, the prowler fled.

Then on Feb. 21, at around 2:30 pm, a 59-year-old woman was sleeping in her apartment on 13th Street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, when she heard noise in the kitchen. She entered the kitchen and also beheld a man standing on her fire escape.

The intruder asked, "Who else is here?" The prowler then claimed to be a police officer and demanded to see the victim's passport, before he entered the apartment and walked out the front door.

In both instances the man was described as white, or Hispanic with light skin. In one instance the suspect was described as being about 6 feet tall while in the other as about 5-foot-9.

Police believe the incidents may be related. Internal Affairs was notified of the second incident, because the man identified himself as a cop, and the investigation is ongoing.

78/72 Blotters

Tahoe taken

A 52-year-old man's 2000 Chevy Tahoe disappeared Feb. 21 from its parking spot on First Street, between Fourth and Fifth avenues.

The victim said he parked at the location at around 6:45 pm and entered a nearby restaurant for dinner. When he returned to the space at 10 pm, the car was gone.

High anxiety

A purse snatcher made off with cash and anxiety pills on Feb. 19.

The victim, 33, placed her purse on a seat next to her while riding the Manhattan-bound F train through Park Slope. The victim told police that the train had just entered the Fourth Avenue station at Ninth Street, at 10:30 am, when a man snatched the purse and fled the train.

The victim reported stolen $30, ID and Alprazolal, a medication for anxiety, stolen.

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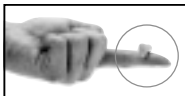

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Davis, Gif square off over arts demotion

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

City Council Speaker Gifford Miller may soon learn what bruised party leaders in Brooklyn have discovered in several battles with Fort Greene Councilman James Davis: he may not have the power to topple you, but he can be a major pain in the backside.

In an apparent act of political payback, Miller ejected Davis from his membership on the Cultural Affairs, Libraries & International Intergroup Relations Committee for not voting on behalf of the 18.5-percent property tax hike passed last November. True to form, Davis responded with the threat of a federal lawsuit.

"We must preserve the integrity of every council member; the right to vote the will of his constituents," Davis said. "That's why we are here. If there is retaliation and repercussions for voting, then do I vote the will of Gifford Miller or the will of the people who put me in office?"

On Feb. 12, Davis, whose district includes the Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, the main branch of the Brooklyn Public Library and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, was voted off the committee by the council at the urging of Miller. Along with Davis, the other two Democratic councilmen who voted against the property tax hike, Tony Avella and Allan Jennings, both of Queens, lost their posts on the Rules and Public Safety committees, respectively.

In a Feb. 20 letter to Miller, Davis attorney Harry Kresky wrote: "A serious question exists as to whether an act of retribution such as that taken against Councilman Davis and the others is outside the zone of protection afforded by the Constitution. It serves no legitimate legislative function and is, in fact, antithetical to the deliberative, democratic process the Constitution seeks to guarantee."

Kresky told The Brooklyn Papers this week, "The only protection that Speaker Miller has is under the doctrine of 'legislative immunity,' which essentially shields legislators and legislative bodies from being subject to intervention, scrutiny [and] questioning by courts.

"But legislative immunity only applies to legitimate legislative activities," he added. "There's been a lot of litigation as to what those are."

Kresky's letter adds that Miller should "rescind the actions taken by you and the council and restore Councilman Davis and the others to their respective committee positions…"

"We certainly hope he won't waste taxpayer dollars with a frivolous lawsuit," said Chris Policano, a spokesman for Miller. Policano argued that the committee assignments were ratified in the council by a vote of 40-4.

"By any standards, that's a democratic process," Policano said.

Davis, however, claims his colleagues affirmed the reassignments under fear of retribution.

Davis, who chairs the Juvenile Justice Subcommittee and sits on the Civil Service & Labor, Consumer Affairs and Public Safety committees, downplayed the effect his absence on the cultural affairs committee would have on the institutions in his district.

"The cultural institutions are going to get money anyway because a lot of that money comes from the Brooklyn delegation," he said. "They will be taken care of."

In the budgeting process, funding for the cultural institutions tends to be lobbied for by the entire Brooklyn delegation to the City Council because their impact is borough-wide and their city funding exceeds the capacity of a single member's discretionary budget.

"While James was certainly a leading voice on behalf of the cultural institutions — partially because many of them are located in his district — I don't think any of us believe that because they are sited in James' district, they aren't borough-wide agenda items," said Marine Park Councilman Lew Fidler, who is chairman of the Brooklyn delegation. "And I can't imagine the speaker would hurt Brooklyn's cultural institutions."

The property tax was passed last November in a deal between the city council and Mayor Michael Bloomberg in which agreed to raise revenues through increased property taxes and other measures, such as activation of metered parking on Sundays.

Davis was one of six council members to vote against the tax hike, including the three Democrats and the Republican delegation of Dennis Gallagher, of Queens, James Oddo, of Bensonhurst, and Andrew Lanza, of Staten Island.

In opposing the increase, Davis complained that the hike was excessive, that there was not enough public input and that the agreement should have sought exemptions for seniors and others on a fixed income.

In bouncing Davis, Miller is taking on one of the council's most battle-tested elected officials, who has led one-man wars with superior powers, and has walked away remarkably unscathed.

Davis has consistently attacked political rivals, and especially Brooklyn Democratic County Leader Clarence Norman, in the press. He also sued the police department after he was fired for mistakenly appearing on the ballot as the Liberal Party candidate in 1998 — in a race against Norman — which would have violated the department's policy of being a political candidate while on active duty. Davis took the NYPD to court, charging that the department violated his First Amendment rights by retaliating against him for speaking out on issues of public concern when he criticized the police department and campaigned against Norman.

A federal jury awarded Davis $100,000 in June, but U.S. District Judge Shira Scheindlin reversed the verdict in September.

Responding to a question about his ability to cause discomfort among his rivals, Davis said he would show Miller "not only what I showed Clarence Norman, but what I showed the NYPD for firing me. I'm ready to go the long haul … I have no problem with fighting for democracy."

"I certainly didn't advise him to take this road with the speaker," Fidler said. "I enjoy a good relationship with James. I counsel him privately in ways that I think he can be most effective while maintaining his independence. Sometimes he takes my advice, sometimes he doesn't.

"They also serve who speak their minds without restraint," Fidler added.

CENTER...

Continued from page 1

can be attributed to our ongoing efforts to improve the Atlantic Avenue Transitional Center under the direction of Ms. Gold."

Despite a recent ebb in police-related incidents, neighborhood groups have long claimed that violent incidents related to the center are more than occasional.

Gruneberg wrote in her letter that between Jan. 1 and June 30, 2002, there were 68 incidents requiring police attention, 14 of which resulted in complaint reports. Those included one robbery, one assault, four petit larcenies, three counts of harassment and five missing persons.

Gruneberg sited the 84th Precinct as the source of her data.

"We strongly feel that with a 25-year-plus history of problems in this community, and ongoing unsuccessful attempts to work with ACS administration to improve the situation — with virtually no change — it is appropriate to call for its closing," wrote Gruneberg.

Efforts between elected officials and the center administration have included studying successful practices employed at other youth facilities in New York City.

Officials, however, remain obstinate that the center must be closed.

"I believe that it needs to go," said Brooklyn Heights-Boerum Hill Councilman David Yassky. "But while it's here I want to work as hard as we can to make it better rather than worse."

The 24-bed group home, at 316 Atlantic Ave., is a form of foster care for youths between the ages of 15 and 21. Many have a history of emotional and behavioral problems and the length of stay varies from one to 90 days. Critics complain that many stays exceed that period.

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK , COUNTY OF KINGS. Index No.: 39017/2002. SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS. FAIRBANKS CAPITAL CORP. AS SERVICING AGENT FOR HOMECOMINGS FINANCIAL NETWORK, INC., Plaintiff, against- JOHN GILBERT, if living, or if either or all be dead, their wives, husbands, heirs-at-law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, assignees, lessors and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said JOHN GILBERT by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise, of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and the respective husbands, wives, widow or widowers of them, if any, all of whose names are unknown to plaintiff, NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; STATE OF NEW YORK, Defendants. TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, where service of this summons is made by delivery upon you personally within this state, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner, and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint. TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Honorable Abraham Gerges of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, signed on December 23, 2003, and filed with supporting papers in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, State of New York. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage upon the premises described below, executed by JOHN GILBERT to Interstate Resource Corp. in the principal amount of $318,250.00, which mortgage was recorded in Kings County, State of New York on February 5, 2001, in Liber/Reel 5068 at page 708. Said premises being known as and by 566 A Bristol Street, Brooklyn, New York 11213. Dated: December 2, 2002, Carle Place, New York. Lori B. Sklar, Esq. ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff, One Old Country Road, Suite 200, Carle Place, New York 11514. (516) 741-2585 . BPS-9

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Next phase for Brooklyn Bridge Park plan

Work to begin in DUMBO; firm hired for Environmental Impact Statement

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

Brooklyn Bridge Park took two steps forward this week with the selection of an environmental consultant and the announcement of work commencing on city-owned portions of the planned commercial and recreational development.

The Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation, a subsidiary of the Empire State Development Corporation charged with building the 1.3-mile waterfront development between Jay and Joralemon streets, selected the Manhattan-based consulting firm, AKRF Inc., to perform an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The EIS should take a little over a year and planners are hoping to break ground on the larger portions of the park by spring 2004.

Meanwhile, the city is proceeding on projects that have been in the works for the past several years.

On Feb. 20, the city Department of Parks and Recreation announced ongoing plans to develop portions of the park around the DEP property beneath the Manhattan Bridge between Adams and Main streets, near the Main Street Playground, which was the first phase of the park to be completed.

The plans will provide shoreline stabilization, the planting of greenery and the creation of pathways near the water.

Emmanuel Thingue, a landscape architect on the project for the Parks Department, said the shrubbery would remain low "to maintain visual contact with the water."

A Parks Department spokesman said construction is hoped to begin this summer and should cost about $3.7 million in city funds.

When the project is complete, pedestrians will have access to the waterfront under the Manhattan Bridge.

Sound attenuation and safety measures to guard against falling debris from the platform of the bridge will be addressed as the project proceeds, according to Jim Moogan, executive director of the Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation.

The first round of city capital improvements was completed in late 2001, which included the Main Street Playground, at the intersection of Main and Plymouth streets in DUMBO.

Other city projects have been stalled since the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), which had been housed in the World Trade Center, temporarily moved into the Purchase Building last February. The city had allocated close to $11 million in Fiscal Year 2003 for the construction of greenspace north of the Purchase Building and the demolition or truncation of the building itself.

While that money has not been used, it has carried into the next fiscal year in the mayor's preliminary budget, said Councilman David Yassky, whose district encompasses much of the planned development.

In the meantime, OEM has been presenting plans to community groups to raze the 60,000-square-foot Red Cross Building at 165 Cadman Plaza East for its permanent headquarters.

The next phase of Brooklyn Bridge Park will start on DEP property behind Main Street Playground in DUMBO. BP / Tom Callan

LETTERS

Ikea responds to Paper story

To the editor:

While your coverage of Ikea's efforts to develop its first New York City store in Brooklyn has largely been even-handed, your Feb. 17 article — and particularly your headline ("Slopers: No to Ikea") — is both misleading and irresponsible.

Despite the headline's inflammatory suggestion, the fact is that a small group of individuals in a single civic organization took a position on this project — and by a split vote, no less.

In addition, should your reporter have asked, he would have discovered that Ikea contacted the Park Slope Civic Council last month and offered to make a presentation on its comprehensive plans for addressing the community's traffic concerns. However, our offer was not accepted and the civic council chose to make its decision based solely on the speculative information provided to them by one of the project's main opponents.

We are extremely proud of our thoughtful plans for Ikea Red Hook and will continue to proactively reach out to neighborhood groups, community leaders and residents as we have been doing for the past several months. We are excited about bringing more than 500 new, high-quality jobs to Brooklyn, along with a new waterfront esplanade that will finally return the Red Hook waterfront to the community.

And while we know Ikea Red Hook is a big idea, aren't big ideas what Brooklyn has always been about?

—Patrick Smith, Real estate director, Ikea Property Inc.

Too much traffic

To the editor:

Your recent article concerning the request by the Park Slope Civic Council that an alternative site be found for the Ikea now attempting to locate on the Red Hook waterfront did not include several important facts:

This Ikea, with its 60,000 vehicles, would be located on a very narrow street directly across from our main park.

Our buses, already slow and inadequate, are relied on by thousands of people because there is no train in Red Hook. The Ikea traffic would slow them to a crawl.

The response time of emergency vehicles will be increased. This is critical when the closing of local firehouses is being considered.

Pollution will be increased as more than 600 diesel buses and hundreds of delivery trucks that operate from Red Hook are delayed by the increased traffic, and spill more particulate into the air.

Dramatically high asthma rates will spike.

This Ikea would be located in an economic development zone, which will give it multiple tax breaks that will unfairly undermine shopping streets for miles around.

Ikea encourages customers to drive by charging a MINIMUM of $99 to deliver any item and a $15 surcharge for each flight of stairs. Therefore, taking a jitney, a ferry or public transportation is highly unlikely given the need to carry furniture purchases.

No other Ikea in the country is sited in a similar location.

The 1,500-car parking lot is larger than Pathmark's, Home Depot's and Costco's combined. And each of those stores is adjacent to a wide street and much closer to the Gowanus Expressway.

The impact from the 60,000 Ikea vehicles will be felt far beyond Red Hook as traffic congestion forces vehicles onto local streets.

— John McGettrick, co-chair Red Hook Civic Association

Stamp of approval

The Brooklyn Papers / Tom Callan

The General Post Office on Cadman Plaza unveiled its renovated interior on Monday. Cutting the ribbon are (from left) Postmaster Joseph Lubrano, Rudolph K. Umshield (vice president of Facilities from the Postal Headquarters in Washington), Borough President Marty Markowitz, David L. Solomon (vice president of Facilities for the New York Metro Area) and Lily Jung-Burton (Postal district manager-Triboro District).

CONDOMS

Continued from page 1

a spokesman for Hot Rod Condoms, which uses the marketing slogan, "Drive it Home."

"A lot of people, if they are going to have illicit affairs or take someone home from a bar at night, they are not always prepared, and end up in hotels," Kinyon said. "They could be in that situation and not be able to go out and get condoms and be engaged in risky behavior."

One such person, who found herself in a legally sanctioned dalliance with her husband at a Doubletree Hotel in Lowell, Mass., is Celeste Cleary, formerly of Carroll Gardens, who now lives in upstate New Paltz.

Cleary and her husband of 10 years went to Lowell last summer to celebrate her birthday. They attended a Dolly Parton concert and returned to their room with a romantic twinkle in their eyes.

"We forgot to pack condoms and they didn't have any for sale even though there were hundreds of rooms," she said. "They ended up sending us out in the middle of the night, in a city we didn't know, to find a convenience store that sells condoms."

Cleary has since contacted Montgomery to offer her support of the initiative. She stated her willingness to testify before the state Senate on behalf of the bill.

"It's such a basic thing," Cleary said. "If people are staying at hotels they are probably having sex."

However, Jaime De Nardo, manager of the Comfort Inn on Fourth Avenue at 83rd Street in Bay Ridge said, "I don't think that I've ever had someone come to the front desk to ask if we sold condoms, and I've been here six years."

She added that she had some concerns about the way customers might view the establishment if they sold or provided condoms.

"It might give the guests the wrong impression," she said.

Through a spokeswoman, Sam Ibrahim, general manager of the New York Marriott Brooklyn, on Adams Street in Downtown Brooklyn, echoed De Nardo's sentiments with respect to condoms, and said that while guests have not typically requested them the hotel would comply and support the measure should it pass.

Both Montgomery, who has served in the state Senate since 1984, and Andrews, who has been in office for a year, have taken a ribbing, so to speak, from the media — actually getting lampooned in a late-night talk show monologue — but Montgomery takes the humor in stride. She hopes the attention will galvanize enough public support for the bill to force the reluctant state Senate Republican majority to capitulate, similar to their concession on needle exchange in the late-1990s.

"I doubt it," replied Mark Hansen, a spokesman for state Senate Majority Leader Joe Bruno. "Hotels already put chocolates on top of the pillows, they shouldn't be required to put condoms under them."

SHELTER...

Continued from page 1

Fort Greene and in whose district the Tillary Street shelter is sited, suspended judgement until there was greater feedback from the community.

"We don't want to just rush out and start attacking the homeless population," Davis said. "That's never been our intent. We understand the homeless people have to be housed somewhere. We had a problem with the notification problem [in the previous shelters]."

Community Board 2 was notified of the Tillary Street shelter plan and CIDR recently presented its plans to the board's Health and Social Services committee.

The company, which is based in Downtown Brooklyn, did not return several calls for comment. According to the Department of Homeless Services, CIDR is seeking a long-term contract at 200 Tillary St.

The agency did not say when the facility would open but CIDR has publicly stated that it hoped to enter the building in the first quarter of this year to assume a nine-year lease.

The eight-story 6,500-square-foot building — which used to be a dormitory — will house residents on the fourth through eighth floors with office space and a cafeteria on the lower three floors.

The operator would provide security guards and video surveillance in the building, according to the plan, and CIDR has pledged that senior staff would be in contact with local law enforcement, which should not be difficult because the 84th Precinct is just around the corner from the facility.

Services would include social workers, psychologists and case workers.

"The goal of the system is to help folks regain independence as soon as they are able," said Jim Anderson, a spokesman for the Department for Homeless Services. "There's no timeline on how long they can stay."

Anderson said there would be an opportunity for the community to testify on their feelings about the project.

The shelter had previously been operated at 488 Saint Marks Place, between Washington and Classon avenues in Crown Heights.

According to a CIDR report, 88 percent of the women at the St. Mark's Place center were "medically frail," meaning they suffer from chronic health problems and require continuous treatment. The report cited that in March 2001, more than 57 percent of the clients were over 40, more than 53 percent suffered from substance abuse problems and more than 51 percent experienced some form of mental illness.

That shelter had been operated in conjunction with Interfaith Medical Center since 1996 and provided housing and services to 120 women referred by the Department for Homeless Services and the Human Resources Administration.

Interfaith Medical Center has since negotiated to sell 488 Saint Mark's Place for uses other than a medical facility and CIDR has been forced to relocate.

Councilman Davis said the St. Mark's facility had not been a source of many complaints to his office.

Getting it right...

The article in last week's edition of The Brooklyn Papers headlined "Artist: MTA paid me $30G for art it can't hang," should have read $130G.

We regret the error.

The Brooklyn Papers strives for accuracy, but sometimes mistakes are made. In such cases, readers are urged to contact Managing Editor Neil Sloane at (718) 834-9350, ext. 119, or by fax at (718) 834-9278.

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Q: "My husband thinks it's OK to nap while I'm away and our 1-year-old wanders around the house. How can I convince him that anything can happen without proper supervision?" — a mother

A: If your husband has no common sense, then use this letter from a 90-year-old grandmother to build your case:

"My husband was supposed to care for our 2-1/2-year-old daughter while I was at work in our grocery business," Alice Robards recalls. "She came by the bed with her little clothes and asked him to dress her."

Her husband told the child to wait until he was out of bed, but she was eager to get on with her daily routine. She got a bar of soap and climbed into the deep, old-fashioned bathtub and turned on the water.

"Every time she tried to get out, she slipped down into the hot water," Robards says. "By the time her dad realized she was in trouble and got her out of the hot water, she was in agony."

Robards rushed home from work to take her only daughter to the hospital, where she died within an hour. After more than 50 years, the mother says, the "awful hurt" is still with her each day.

"You can turn your back on a child for just a minute, and something terrible happens," says Robards, a widow who was never able to talk about the tragic accident with her husband. "Parents aren't as careful as they should be."

Injuries are the leading cause of death of children younger than 4 in the United States, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Childproofing your home minimizes the risk of serious or fatal injury, but there's no way to make a house safe enough for parents to sleep while their little ones crawl and walk around.

The common advice "sleep when your baby sleeps" is a logical, safe alternative. One way to shake off the desire for a nap is to head outside with your child.

But safety isn't the only reason a parent needs to be awake and responsive to a child's needs. In the early years, particularly from birth to age 3, attachments and positive stimulation make a big difference in a child's development.

Safety resources and information:

• Hot tap water accounts for nearly one-fourth of all scald burns among children. Tap-water burns most often occur in the bathroom and tend to be more severe and cover a larger portion of the body than other scald burns, according to the Safe Kids Campaign. The organization's web site is www.safekids.org.

• To prevent accidents, the Window Covering Safety Council offers free window-cord safety kits to consumers. Its toll-free hotline is (800) 506-4636.

Parent-to-Parent

By Betsy Flagler

Can you help?

"I have a 10-year-old stepson who refuses to pull the toilet seat up when he goes to urinate. It goes everywhere. We've taken privileges away, we've made him clean it up. His response is, 'Oh, I forgot.' His mother and dad are remarried, but he seems to accept us all. I am beside myself." — a mother from Dallas

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TOLLS...

Continued from page 1

Standing beside Markowitz were Assembly members Jim Brennan, of Park Slope; Roger Green, of Fort Greene; Peter Abbate, of Bensonhurst; Adele Cohen, of Bay Ridge; Joe Lentol, of Williamsburg; Annette Robinson, of Bedford-Stuyvesant; as well as Felder and Councilman David Weprin of Queens.

"I represent Brighton Beach, Coney Island and Bay Ridge," Cohen said. "That's the end of the line. There are four subways that end in Coney Island and one that ends in Bay Ridge and when they don't run, as they didn't this weekend [during the blizzard], we are prisoners."

Downtown Councilman David Yassky has so far remained undecided on bridge tolls, stating that the mayor's proposal has been too vague.

"I'm not saying, 'Under no circumstances, no how, no way,'" he said. "I want to see a specific proposal. I want to see some real independent analysis of the impact on traffic and the impact on air pollution. And then I'd want to understand what the mayor would propose the money for."

Neither the city Department of Transportation (DOT) nor the Bloomberg administration has given any indication how the tolls would work, but supporters have argued for boothless transponder tolls that could photograph license plates or EZ-Pass identification, they say, without slowing down traffic. Similar systems are used in such foreign cities as Toronto, Hong Kong and Seoul.

To that argument, Markowitz countered, "You can imagine the tens of millions of dollars they're going to have to spend just to collect the revenue from people who don't pay on time. Just think of the additional bureaucracy we're proposing."

The toll plan is back in Bloomberg's latest budget proposal, suggesting it could raise as much as $200 million for the city in the next fiscal year.

Weprin, however, who is chairman of the council's Finance Committee said, "It will have to work out some sort of fee splitting arrangement similar to what is done with the other tolls, the MTA, etc. So it's really a foolish proposal in that its not going to change the revenues, it's not going to solve the problems," he said.

"We are taking a very close look at this issue," said DOT spokeswoman Lisi de Bourbon. "But it's too soon to say exactly how revenue would be dispersed or even what shape the entity that would collect the tolls would take."

The Assembly members said the proposal could not be passed by the city alone. "We have to enact enabling legislation in order for the tolls to be passed," said Lentol.

State Senate Majority Leader Joe Bruno said recently that while he would not support re-instituting a commuter tax, he would support a New York City bridge toll plan.

ZONING...

Continued from page 1

show reporters an out-of-context, 61-foot-tall building under construction on a side street beside brownstones, about 100 feet east of Fourth Avenue on President Street, as a hazard of a possible delay.

"Freezing Fourth Avenue at eight stories, which is essentially what this does, would be criminal," said City Planning Director Amanda Burden.

City Planning has argued that with an eight-story limit there would not be sufficient incentive for developers to build to 12 stories if affordable housing were mandated.

"The zoning clearly states the appropriate height and bulk for an area," said Regina Myer, the director of the Brooklyn office for City Planning. "Zoning doesn't clearly prescribe what programs are appropriate for a specific area."

Brad Lander, executive director of the Fifth Avenue Committee, countered that the project has been tested in other municipalities and that it could work.

"Cities from Boston to Washington, D.C., to Montgomery County, Md., to Chicago and San Diego use inclusionary zoning in their markets that are much cooler than Park Slope," Lander said.

Most of Park Slope is currently zoned R6, which allows for three- to 12-story apartment buildings. Under the proposed zoning almost all of the area between Union and 15th streets, from Prospect Park West to just past Fourth Avenue, would become R6B, with a height limit of 50 feet and a required setback at 40 feet.

An exception to the proposal is along Fourth Avenue, between Warren and 15th streets, which boasts a much wider roadway than the other Park Slope corridors. That strip is suggested for rezoning to R8A, which would allow for buildings as high as 120 feet, or about 12 stories, setback at 85 feet.

The Fifth Avenue Committee argued before the CB6 Land Use committee last December to make room in the proposal for "inclusionary zoning," which would decrease the allowable height on Fourth Avenue but give developers the opportunity to build above the zoning if 20 percent of the units went to low- and middle-income renters.

The model is currently used in some parts of Manhattan in areas that are zoned R10, the highest residential zone in the city.

The committee unanimously voted against the amendment but included a motion "to encourage affordable housing wherever possible, as rapidly as possible."

Although he effectively recommended limiting Fourth Avenue to R7A, Markowitz did, however, allow for a portion of Fourth Avenue, between President and Fifth streets, to proceed as proposed. His office wrote that three sites in the area are ready to be developed as soon as the rezoning is approved.

"It is anticipated that these sites are not likely to be induced to wait for a possible benefit of more density that could be achieved through inclusionary housing bonus," the Markowitz report read. "Rezoning these sites now to R7A would result in the loss of 150 units. These units are likely only constructed if a certain cluster of blocks along Fourth Avenue is rezoned to R8A."

That also angered CB6 and Armer, who is a borough president appointee.

"The community board sees Fourth Avenue as a whole and the borough president is recommending Fourth Avenue be split up," Armer said.

Markowitz also suggested including the west side of Fourth Avenue in the proposal, between Sackett and Sixth streets, which City Planning left out of the initiative to work around the Gowanus area, which is primarily zoned for manufacturing.

Markowitz has made affordable housing one of his hallmark causes, allocating $2 million from Borough Hall's 2003 budget for a Brooklyn Housing Fund. He also organized a housing summit last June bringing housing specialists to address the critical affordable housing shortage in New York and in Brooklyn.

The Park Slope rezoning plan will come before the City Planning Commission on March 5, after which it goes to the City Council.

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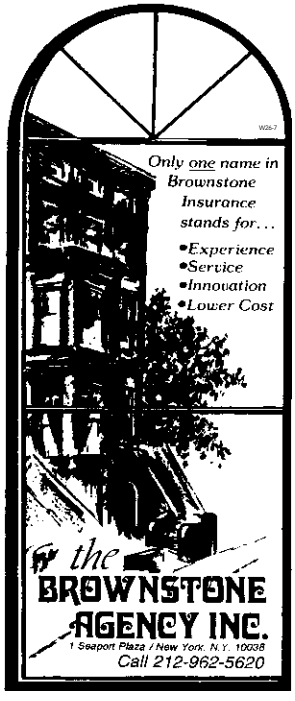

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GO BROOKLYN

The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

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BROOKLYN EVENTS CALENDAR: GO 2

Boogie nights

New supper club is the place to shake your groove thang

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

Remember the 1970s, when women were women and men wore heels? Remember doing "The Hustle" and "shakin' your groove thang?"

If you answered "yes," then somewhere in your closet is a wide-lapel, polyester getup that you did "The Bump" in.

Remove it immediately!

On Saturday night, curl the front and sides of your hair into Farrah Fawcett-like wings (Men, go for as much height as possible); spritz Charlie or Aramis over neck and chest; don polyester ensemble followed by gold chains; and head for Willie Bruno's Rhythm Supper Club on 86th Street in Bensonhurst, where every Saturday night disco is "Stayin' Alive."

The first of the club's disco evenings, "The Wright Saturday Night Stayin' Alive Disco '70s" took place on Feb. 1. The theme was "A Salute to Bensonhurst."

According to Bruno, his club "offers something for the over-30 community who want to have a great time dancing to disco music."

The decor at Bruno's club is aimed to please a sophisticated crowd.

"I built the bar, did the tile work, the painting. I built the arch in the entranceway and laid the floor's wooden edging piece by piece," Bruno told GO Brooklyn. His attention to detail paid off. The huge room has an upscale feel with his 30-foot long, wooden bar curving along one wall; wooden tables and chairs; cozy, tapestry-covered sofas in front of a fireplace; and ample room to "get down" on the dance floor.

In early March, the club's kitchen will open with a menu of Italian and Puerto Rican dishes inspired by Bruno's touring days.

Bruno was the singer for the Latin jazz band Monguito Santamaria, son of Mongo Santamaria, from the 1960s through the 1980s.

"When I was on tour with my band," said Bruno, "we traveled to Puerto Rico. The cooking there is spicy with plenty of fish, sweet potatoes and yucca. That is the kind of dishes we will serve at the club."

The 25th anniversary of "Saturday Night Fever," released in 1977, and filmed on the streets of Bensonhurst and Bay Ridge, was celebrated with a viewing at the opening event. The movie brought Bensonhurst national attention and propelled John Travolta from sitcom celebrity (remember "Welcome Back, Kotter"?) to movie stardom. At the time, men sporting three-piece suits and women dressed in sequined sweaters and wearing Rococo-style, over-sized glasses watched the film with rapt attention. A young and beautiful Travolta, playing Tony Manero, brought sighs from the women in the audience the moment he strutted onto the screen with that cock-of-the-walk swagger; and, of course, who can forget that iconic white polyester suit?

"After 'Saturday Night Fever' everyone wanted to be Travolta and dress like Tony Manero," said Bruno. "Three-piece polyester suits with the shirt collar worn outside the jacket and platform shoes were the look."

Following the film, amateur "bumpers," and disco mavens with synchronized steps hustled on the dance floor to "Brick House" and "Kung Fu Fighting."

Later in the evening a Tony Manero look-alike contest was interrupted by Brian Bergdoll, an entertainer who specializes in impersonating Tony Manero. He crashed past crowded tables and jumped in front of the five Manero finalists. The crowd went wild. Bergdoll's two-minute dance routine brought Manero to life. For his effort, Bergdoll was awarded $100.

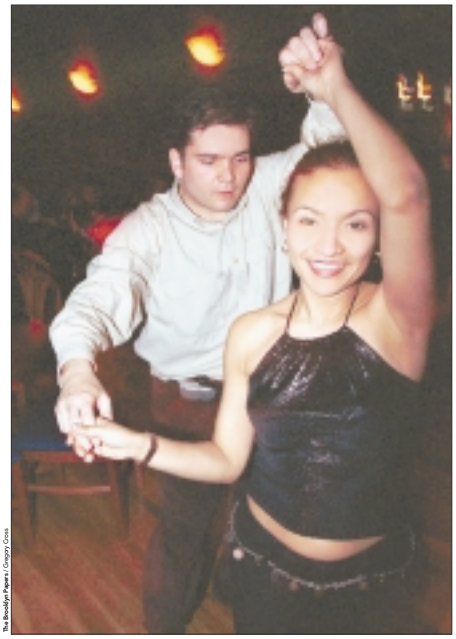
Each weekend the club hosts "Salsa Select Fridays" featuring Latin bands. On Feb. 28, they'll spin a mix of "hot Latin grooves by top Latin DJs."

According to Tiffany Wright, CEO of TWW Organizational Consulting Inc., who produces "The Wright Saturday Night Stayin' Alive Disco '70s" evenings with Yojayhudson.com, "There's no end in sight to our disco Saturday nights. They've been such a hit."

"There's a diverse mix to this neighborhood," Bruno said of Bensonhurst. "To please everyone we plan on producing doo-wop evenings, and we're looking forward to offering karaoke nights to our Asian clientele."

If you remember "getting down" until 2 am under the shimmering lights of a disco ball; if the aromas of Aqua Net and Kools make you feel young; if there was a time when "the city" seemed like an oasis of sophistication and, just for a moment, the Bee Gees were your heroes; then "The Wright Saturday Night" is right for you.

The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mango



The Brooklyn Papers / Gregory Cross

Disco fever: (Above) Party producer Tiffany Wright with Rhythm Supper Club owner Willie Bruno at his new Bensonhurst club. (At right) Joe Pestana gives Jewel Rizo a spin at the "Wright Saturday Night Stayin' Alive Disco '70s Party" on Feb. 22.

DINING

Rhythm Supper Club (2402 86th St. at 24th Avenue in Bensonhurst) accepts Visa, MasterCard and American Express. The club is open on Saturday and Sunday from 7 pm to 4 am. Admission: $10. There is no drink minimum. Proper attire is required; anyone in jeans and sneakers will be turned away. For information, call (718) 372-1880 or (347) 742-2704.

Chef Jean-Francois Fraysse in his new restaurant, Quercy, on Court Street. The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mango

Red wine and sympathy

These are troubling times, what with a possible war on the horizon and the economy in the pits. But a French man and his wife hope to heal us — one cassoulet at a time.

In January, Jean-Francois Fraysse and his wife, Melva Max, who own La Luncheonette in Manhattan, opened Quercy on Court Street, bringing with them a little *je ne sais quoi*, not to mention good eating, to Cobble Hill.

Named for Fraysse's hometown, located "halfway between Toulouse and Bordeaux in Southwest France," the restaurant offers a "very nice" wine list and true French comfort classics: foie gras, rabbit stew and *blanquette de veau* (veal stew). Fraysse does not want to sound "too proud," but proclaims his cassoulet, or meat and bean stew, to be "one of the best in the city."

The decor, according to Fraysse, is "very warm with a blue-and-white checkered floor, ah, red wood on the walls and many 'skunks.'" Skunks? He meant sconces, candlelit sconces that add a romantic glow to the room. As far as service goes, Fraysse says of his waitstaff, "They are very sympathetic. We try our best."

Quercy (242 Court St. at Baltic Street) accepts cash only. Entrees: $12-$24. The restaurant is open for lunch and dinner Tuesdays through Sundays and is closed on Mondays. For reservations call (718) 243-2151.

— Tina Barry

Fraysse is proud of his cassoulets. BP / Greg Mango

EVENT

Just bead it

The Brooklyn Museum of Art is hosting a colorful Mardi Gras-Carnival party on March 1, 5-11 pm, as part of its monthly First Saturday series. Don't be afraid to dress the part; the Carnival costume contest will be judged from 9 pm to 9:45 pm.

Among the evening's highlights are New Orleans jazz performed live by Jeff Newell's New-Trad Octet, at 6 pm, and a West African dance and drumming show by Sidiki Conde and Toukounou, at 7 pm.

At 9 pm, a Brooklyn Historical Society curator will discuss the history of women in Brooklyn and the Brooklyn International Film Festival will present a film about the first Afro-Brazilian woman elected to Brazil's Senate, Benedita da Silva.

Free Brazilian dance lessons will be offered at 8 pm, followed by Ogans (pictured) — regulars at SOB's and Elbow Room — playing Afro-Brazilian Carnival music from 9 pm to 11 pm.

The museum is located at 200 Eastern Parkway. Admission is free. For more information, call (718) 501-6330 or visit www.brooklynmuseum.org. *— Lisa J. Curtis*

THEATER

Family ties

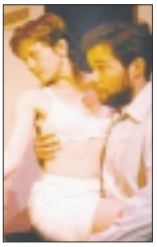
Darkly comic 'Beauty Queen of Leenane' reveals a sick mother-daughter relationship

By Paulanne Simmons
for The Brooklyn Papers

Joan Crawford and Bette Davis came out of semi-retirement in 1962 to star in the classic thriller "What Ever Happened to Baby Jane." The aging film stars played aging film stars in a movie about a sadomasochistic sister-sister relationship that erupts when the Davis character finds out the Crawford character is planning to put her in a sanitarium, causing Davis to decide it's time to make her theatrical comeback — and settle a few scores.

"The Beauty Queen of Leenane," now on stage at the Gallery Players, has much of the suspense and surprise of "Baby Jane." But it doesn't have Crawford and Davis.

The play, which opened at the Walter Kerr Theatre in March 1998 after a successful London run, is about a sadomasochistic mother-daughter relationship that erupts when a handsome young man enters their lives.



Janet Dunson as Maureen Folan and David Keller as Pato Dooley in 'Beauty Queen of Leenane.'

In the fine tradition of Anglo-Irish playwrights, 27-year-old Martin McDonagh wrote a script that unsparingly portrays the Irish in all their poverty and pettiness, creativity and callousness. With cruel and clear insight, and a generous dose of Irish humor, McDonagh shows how romance both flourishes and withers in this most contradictory of countries.

In the Gallery Players' staging, directed by Bradley Campbell, Dolores Kenan is the mother, Mag Folan, a manipulative, overbearing woman who has deprived her daughter of every chance for romance in her largely barren life. Janet Dunson is her daughter, an old maid who has spent her entire life caring for her whining mother.

Kenan complains, demands and tortures her daughter by throwing the contents of her bedpan down the kitchen sink (which leads to some too-cute potty humor). Maureen retaliates by cruelly imagining her mother's death, forcing her to eat food she hates (remember the rat in "Baby Jane"?) and subjecting her to physical abuse.

Then Ray Dooley (Garry Burgoyne) delivers an invitation to Maureen for a goodbye party being held in the neighborhood. There she dances with his brother Pato (David Keller). After the last dance, Maureen realizes Pato may be her last chance at happiness. She invites him home to spend the night, and they promptly fall in love.

Pato leaves to work in London, but he doesn't forget Maureen, who goes on living and locking horns with her mother. In the ensuing battle between mother and daughter, Mag uses all her wiles to thwart the relationship, while Maureen fights for her life and her love.

Keller, who must have a touch of the Irish in him, plays Pato beautifully and believably. His monologue in which he composes a heart-rending and hilarious letter to his love is a veritable tour-de-force. And Burgoyne, who serves mostly as a messenger and a catalyst, gives admirable depth to a

See ***BEAUTY*** *on page* ***GO 4***

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Dance of 'Desire'

Choreographer Diamond stages Tennessee Williams' 'Streetcar' at BCBC

By Lisa J. Curtis
The Brooklyn Papers

On Sunday, Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts will present two exciting New York City premieres — choreographer Alonzo King's "Chants" and choreographer Mark Diamond's two-act, "A Streetcar Named Desire" — both performed by the North Carolina Dance Theatre.

Diamond's production, based on Tennessee Williams' play, is set in New Orleans in 1950. It centers on Blanche DuBois, an aging Southern belle who has lost everything, and must seek refuge with her sister, Stella, and Stella's husband, Stanley Kowalski. The well-known story that unfolds is the inevitable, steamy conflict between frail, refined Blanche and the brutish, vulgar Stanley.

North Carolina Dance Theatre President and Artistic Director Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux told GO Brooklyn that some aspects of the story are even more affecting when danced.

"The play of Tennessee Williams really transforms well into dance," said the former New York City Ballet principal dancer. "Sometimes movements are more expressive than words.

"It's really almost an old-fashioned way of telling a story, bringing the drama through the movements. Mark Diamond's 'Streetcar' is showing the very real world of Stanley and the fantasy world of Blanche," he said. "She really lives a life of fantasy, because the reality is not possible for her to bear."

Diamond, a former dancer for Hamburg Staatsoper, in Germany, as well as the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and the Milwaukee Ballet Company, has been a full-time choreographer and teacher since 1983.

Rather than use a single composer, Diamond's two-act "Streetcar" is set to music by Bernard Herrman, Benny Golson, William Christopher Handy, Marty Paich, Darius Milhaud, Cole Porter, Franz Waxman, Igor Stravinsky, Frederic Chopin, Earl Davis, John Williams, Russ Garcia and David Mills.

"I think Diamond was really inspired in his choices of music," said Bonnefoux. "Like Chopin, for example. The romantic music comes just for [Blanche], and that is such beautiful music that people can recognize. It's so evocative.

"All the music when she's dancing is very classical, and [Stanley's] music is very jazz, contemporary, very real. When it's about her, it's about fantasy — the way she was before she lost her home, and her husband and her family died. She lives that life again."

Bonnefoux said that Diamond's placement of upbeat jazz also cleverly serves to fuel the tension.

"The jazz music almost sounds like the mood is light, jazzy and fun and yet it accentuates the drama underneath that," he said. "For Diamond, one composer couldn't evoke all of those feelings or that percussion, especially in the poker game when you see them doing bravura jumps — very athletic jumps."

Sybil Huskey, of Dance Magazine, described the 2001 world premiere of "Streetcar" performed by the North Carolina Dance Theatre, as having "power-packed solos of male bonding and competition."

Story ballets such as Diamond's "Streetcar" require dancers to take on the added challenge of inhabiting a character.

"Blanche is one of the most interesting and complex roles in the theater," said Bonnefoux. "It's a tribute to a dancer to give them such a role." Blanche will be performed at Brooklyn Center by Traci Gilchrest, formerly of the Hartford Ballet and Ballet Arizona.

"She's very aristocratic," said Bonnefoux. "You really can imagine she's Blanche, although she happens to come from Texas. She's very elegant and really does drama. She really expresses it so well. She's a beautiful woman, as was Vivian Leigh in the play. It's very real what's happening to her."

Uri Sands, a former principal dancer with Alvin Ailey who recently joined North Carolina Dance Theatre, dances the role of Stanley.

"He's a powerful dancer," said Bonnefoux. "He is masculine. He just stands there and you know he's an athlete. He's real, and when he starts to dance it's very expressive and he has an amazing jump."

Of course, the play couldn't be exactly translated into dance, and Bonnefoux said that one of Diamond's innovations was to represent the people that Blanche has lost in her life as ghosts that visit her.

"Now that world is finished for her; a dress is all that's left," said Bonnefoux. "Now she has to live in the house with her sister, but through fantasy she still feels important. Here there is a big difference between the two worlds — the one that's lived and the other that is imagined."

"A Streetcar Named Desire" will be joined on the program by the New York City premiere of choreographer Alonzo King's "Chants."

Danced to traditional, a cappella music from Ghana, Zaire, Guinea, Senegal, Tanzania and Kenya, "Chants" is a contemporary ballet, according to Bonnefoux.

"That's really what is very strong with the company," Bonnefoux said of works by King and other choreographers in their repertoire. "It's good to show these other ballets. In 'Streetcar' the few leads have lots to do, but when you see 'Chants' you have a better idea of the strength of the whole company and the individual strengths of the members of the company."

"I think Alonzo King's one of the best nowadays," he said. "The work for the women is still en pointe, but the way the body moves is very expressive, very contemporary."

King is the artistic director of San Francisco's LINES Ballet and has created ballets for more than 50 companies including the Joffrey Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Frankfurt Ballet, Washington Ballet and Hong Kong Ballet. He has also choreographed works for prima ballerina Natalia Makarova and for actor Patrick Swayze's 2001 film "Without a Word."

With talents like King and Diamond behind the scenes and talents like Gilchrest and Sands on stage, it's clear that North Carolina Dance Theatre's two premieres at Brooklyn Center are one of the important, must-see events in New York City's 2002-2003 dance season.

© Cohen

Stellahhh!: Stanley and Stella in North Carolina Dance Theatre's production of "A Streetcar Named Desire."

DANCE

Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College presents the North Carolina Dance Theatre's production of "**A Streetcar Named Desire**" and Alonzo King's "**Chants**" on March 2 at 2 pm at the Walt Whitman Theater, one block from the junction of Nostrand and Flatbush avenues. Tickets are $30. For more information, call (718) 951-4500 or visit the Web site at www.brooklyncenter.com.

WHERE TO GO

compiled by Susan Rosenthal

THURS, FEB 27

FILM: St. Francis College presents "The Comedian." Noon and 6 pm. 180 Remsen St. (718) 489-5272. **Free.**

GARDEN WORKSHOP: Horticultural Society welcomes kids and adults to a talk about trees. Learn how to take care of trees and plant a seed to begin a tree of your own. Supplies limited. 3 to 4:30 pm. Brooklyn Public Library, Pacific branch, 25 Fourth Ave. (212) 757-0915, ext. 107. **Free.**

BAMCINEMATEK: the film series, "The Baron of Blood: Mario Bava." Today, "Black Sunday"(1961). $10. 4:30, 6:50 and 9:30 pm. Cinemachat with film critic Elliott Stein after 6:50 pm screening. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

TRANSIT WORKSHOP: New York Transit Museum hosts a walking tour "The Coney Island Yard." $20, $15 members. 6 pm. Call for meeting location and reservations. (718) 694-1339.

BARNES AND NOBLE: Poetry night hosted by the Brooklyn Poet Laureate and the Borough President's office. 6:30 pm. 267 Seventh Ave. (718) 832-9066. **Free.**

VIDEO: Community Bookstore hosts "Brothers and Others," a video about detainees and the war on terror. 6:45 to 8:45 pm. 143 Seventh Ave. (718) 768-7306. **Free.**

MEETING: Brooklyn Heights Association's annual meeting features keynote speaker, Diana Lam, deputy chancellor of the Department of Education. Her topic: "Creating a Better Future for Public Schools." Refreshments follow. 7 pm. Grace Church, 254 Hicks St. (718) 858-9193.

MEETING: Atlantic Avenue Betterment Association to discuss development of Atlantic/Smith parking lot and the results of marketing study. Also, will accept nominations for AABA officers. 7 pm. Belorusian Orthodox Church, 401 Atlantic Ave. (718) 852-7418. **Free.**

MEETING: State Sen. Martin Golden and the Chinese American Partnership will host an Asian-American Law Enforcement town hall meeting to establish better communications between the Asian community and local law enforcement. 7:30 pm. New Utrecht High School, 1601 80th St. (718) 238-6044.

BRIC STUDIO: hosts Short Cuts, a tribute to the shortest month of the year. Evening features a series of quick plays, monologues and performance art, each lasting seven minutes or less. $10, $8 students. 7:30 pm. 647 Fulton St. (718) 855-7882.

BODY TALK: Park Slope Food Co-op hosts a talk on a method to enable the body to heal from a variety of mental, emotional and physical imbalances. 7:30 pm. 782 Union St. (718) 622-0560. **Free.**

BOATING SAFETY: United States Coast Guard Auxiliary offers a 10-week course. Learn all aspects of safe boating. 7:30 pm. Floyd Bennett Field, Ryan Center. Call for fee information. (718) 238-9187.

MEETING: Concerned Citizens of Bensonhurst meet. 7:30 pm. St. Finbar Center, Bath Avenue and Bay 20th Street. (718) 256-6471.

SOUTHPAW: Album release party features music with The Last Town Chorus. $8. 8 pm. 125 Fifth Ave. (718) 230-0236.

BAM: "Uncle Vanya." 7:30 pm. See Sat., March 1.

FRI, FEB 28

PROSPECT PARK NESTLINGS: Kids, ages 3 to 5, are invited to a program of storytelling, music and crafts. 2 to 3 pm. Audubon Center, Prospect Park. (718) 287-3400. **Free.**

EXHIBIT: Reception for paintings by Joseph Adolphe. 6 to 9 pm. Object Image Gallery, 91 Fifth Ave. (718) 623-2434. **Free.**

DISCUSSION: Svetlana Mintcheva of Arts Advocacy Project leads a talk, "Blocked: Self Censorship and the Limits of the First Amendment." 6:30 pm. Pete's Candy Store, 709 Lorimer St. (718) 302-3770. **Free.**

BAMCINEMATEK: Favorites series: "Faust" (1926). $10. 7 pm. Live piano accompaniment by Donald Sosin. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

SABBATH SERVICE: Park Slope Jewish Center hosts a family service. Potluck dinner follows. Bring a small rhythm instrument and a potluck offering. 6:30 pm. Eighth Avenue and 14th Street. (718) 768-1453.

BOXING: Gleason's Gym white collar boxing show. $15. 7:30 pm. 83 Front St. (718) 797-2872.

JAZZ: Pianist Charles Sibirsky plays to benefit Coalition for the Homeless. $10. 7:30 pm. Old First Church, 729 Carroll St. (718) 965-0960.

FIRST WEEKEND: Brooklyn Arts Exchange. 8 pm. See Sat. March 1.

BAM: "Uncle Vanya." 7:30 pm. See Sat., March 1.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "The Beauty Queen of Leenane." 8 pm. See Sat., March 1.

CONCERT READING: Excerpts of "The Bridge of San Luis Rey." 8 pm. See Sat., March 1.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS: American Opera Projects presents concert readings. 8 pm. See Sat., March 1.

SAT, MARCH 1

PERFORMANCES

CHAMBER MUSIC: Brooklyn Symphony Orchestra performs. 3 pm. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Heights branch, 280 Cadman Plaza West. (718) 623-7100.

BAM: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents Chekhov's "Uncle Vanya." $75, $55, $30. 2 pm. Also, Donmar Warehouse's performance of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night." $75, $55, $30. 7:30 pm. Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 636-4111.

PUNK TEMPLE: Performances by Retisonic with Breaking Pangaea, Etcetera, Brazil and Punk Temple. $8. 5 pm. 2166 Benson Ave. www.punktemple.com

GALLERY PLAYERS: "The Beauty Queen of Leenane." $15, children and seniors $12. 8 pm. 199 14th St. (718) 595-0547.

JAZZ: The Sean Smith Quartet plays. $15 includes wine. 9 pm and 11:30 pm. 119 Vanderbilt Ave. (718) 855-1981.

FIRST WEEKEND: at Brooklyn Arts Exchange. Space grant artists perform. $15 to $8. 8 pm. 421 Fifth Ave. (718) 832-0018.

CONCERT READING: American Opera Projects presents a reading of excerpts of "The Bridge of San Luis Rey." $20, $15 students and seniors. 8 pm. 138 S. Oxford St. (718) 398-4024.

COMEDY: Brooklyn Brew-Ha-Ha at East End Ensemble. $5. One drink minimum. 9 pm. 273 Smith St. (718) 624-8878.

CHILDREN

RIDDIMATHON: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents percussionist David Pleasant and his trio. Singing, dancing and more. $3. 10:30 am. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

WATERLOO BRIDGE THEATER: presents improvised show "The Teddybearbaiters." $2 for kids and $7 for adults. 11 am. 190 Underhill Ave. (212) 502-0796.

BROOKLYN MUSEUM: Kids are invited to "Arty Facts: A Long Time Ago." $6, free for kids 12 and under. 11 am and 2 pm.

South Side

Go beyond the trendy cafes, clubs and boutiques of Williamsburg, and meet the other, struggling residents of the burgeoning neighborhood in an exhibition of 51 black-and-white photographs by Regina Montfort, titled "Beyond Grand Street, Brooklyn, NY." The exhibit will open at the Brooklyn Public Library's Central Library at Grand Army Plaza on March 5 with a reception from 6:30 pm to 8 pm in the Trustees Room.

Montfort spent seven years photographing the lives of Puerto Rican and Dominican teenagers in Williamsburg's South Side barrio. "Betty" (Lindsay Park Houses, 2000) is pictured above. The exhibit will remain on display in the Grand Lobby through April 27. For more information, call (718) 230-2100 or visit the Web site at www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

200 Eastern Parkway. (718) 638-5000.

SELF DEFENSE: Center for Anti-Violence Education invites girls, ages 14 to 19, to a self-defense course. 421 Fifth Ave. (718) 788-1775. **Free.**

PUPPETWORKS: "The Prince and The Magic Flute." $6, $7 adults. 12:30 and 2:30 pm. 338 Sixth Ave. (718) 965-3391.

BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: Totally Tools explains nuts, bolts and gears. $4 admission, free for members. 1 to 4 pm. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4400.

OTHER

SALE: at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. 9 am to 5 pm. 1550 Hendrickson St. (718) 253-4404.

HEALING TOUCH: Learn Ohashiatsu. 2:30 pm. 211 Smith St. (917) 783-1628. **Free.**

FILM SERIES: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, celebrates Women's History Month with a screening of "The Story of Qiu Ju." Film in Mandarin with English subtitles. 2 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100. **Free.**

FIRST SATURDAY: Brooklyn Museum of Art celebrates Mardi Gras during its monthly event. Evening includes a costume contest with prizes, a raffle, free Brazilian dance lessons, performances, movies, gallery tours and more. Highlights include music with Jeff Newell's New-Trad Octet, a family program of Hands-On Art and Ogans will play Afro-Brazilian Carnival music. 5 to 11 pm. 200 Eastern Parkway. (718) 638-5000. **Free.**

RECEPTION: Micro Museum hosts a reception for its exhibit "Fertile Ground." 6 to 9 pm. 123 Smith St. (718) 797-3115. **Free.**

BAMCINEMATEK: Kids Film Festival features films from 14 countries. Today: "The Living Forest" (2001). 11:40 am. Also, "Minoes" (2001). Noon. $10, $6 for children 13 and under. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

SQUARE DANCE: at Plymouth Church. Call for information. 75 Hicks St. (718) 624-4743.

SUN, MARCH 2

PERFORMANCES

BCBC: Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts presents the North Carolina Dance Theater in "A Streetcar Named Desire." $30. 2 pm. Walt Whitman Theater at Brooklyn College, one block from the intersection of Flatbush and Nostrand avenues. (718) 951-4500.

PIANO MUSIC: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, hosts a concert featuring pianist-composer-lyricist-singer Sheryll Anne. 2 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100. **Free.**

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "The Beauty Queen of Leenane." 3 pm. See Sat., March 1.

OPERA: One World Symphony stages Purcell's opera, "Dido and Aeneas."Also, world premiere of Margarita Zelenaia's "Mother's Lamentation." $20, $10 students. 4 pm. St. Ann's and the Holy Trinity, Montague and Clinton streets. (917) 576-9983.

CHILDREN

SEA STORIES: New York Aquarium hosts storyteller Lu Ann Adams for a day of marine-life tales. Recommended for children ages 3 to 7. $11, $7 seniors and children. 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 pm. West Eighth Street and Surf Avenue. (718) 265-FISH.

PUPPETWORKS: "The Prince and The Magic Flute." 12:30 and 2:30 pm. See Sat., March 1.

BAMCINEMATEK: Kids Film Festival continues. Films throughout the day suitable for various ages; call for schedule. $10, $6 children 13 and under. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

WALKING TOUR: Learn about the early inhabitants of Gerritsen Beach on a Gerritsen Mill Hike. Dress warm and wear comfortable shoes. Salt Marsh Nature Center, 3302 Ave. U at East 33rd Street. 11 am. (718) 421-2021. **Free.**

OTHER

ADULT ED: Union Temple hosts a series "One People, Two Worlds." 10 am. 17 Eastern Parkway. (718) 638-7600. **Free.**

SUNDAYS AT SUNNYS: Published authors read. $3. 3 pm. 253 Conover St. (718) 625-8211.

SUPPORT: Brooklyn C hapter Laryngectomee Group meets. 2 pm. St. Athanasius Convent, Bay Parkway and 60th Street. (718) 837-3058.

DINNER DANCE: St. Finbar hosts its annual event. 5 pm. El Caribe Country Club, 5945 Strickland Ave. Call for ticket information. (718) 236-3312.

SUPPORT: New York Methodist Hospital offers a bereavement group. Weekly through Sunday, April 13. 7 pm. 506 Sixth St. (718) 788-4991. **Free.**

READING SERIES: Barbes Bar hosts an evening of poetry. 6 pm. 376 Ninth St. (718) 965-9177. **Free.**

MON, MARCH 3

BAMCINEMATEK: presents series "The Baron of Blood: Mario Bava." Today: "Five Dolls For An August Moon"(1970). $10. 4:30, 6:50 and 9:30 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

FILM: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, presents "The Price of the Ticket," about the

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Boot camp

Grappa Cafe offers diners a taste of a different Italian region every Tuesday

By Lisa J. Curtis
The Brooklyn Papers

The tour guide: Grappa chef Luca Caravello (at left) is offering a new, prix-fixe menu representing a different region in Italy every Tuesday. (Above) Luca's inspired version of the traditional cold antipasto platter, "Napoleone di verdura." The appetizer consists of stacked grilled vegetables, served with mixed greens and goat cheese. The tower is surrounded by drizzled basil oil and dollops of roasted tomato vinaigrette. **The Brooklyn Papers** / Greg Mango

If you thought Italian food was spaghetti and meatballs or chicken parmigiana, Grappa Cafe owners Luca and Robert Caravello want to give you a culinary lesson — every week.

Chef Luca and his brother Robert have been serving top-notch, innovative Italian cuisine for two and a half years at their restaurant on Court Street in Downtown Brooklyn, but next week they will put a new spin on their menu.

Beginning March 4, the Brothers Caravello invite you to sample Italian cuisine, one region at a time. Every Tuesday, Grappa will offer a new prix fixe menu featuring the flavors of a different Italian region. (Of course, those enamored of the current menu can continue to order a la carte on Tuesdays, also.)

Grappa is not just the name of the restaurant. The Italian brandy, distilled from the pomace of grapes, is also an ingredient in a few of the dishes. In fact, there is even grappa in Chef Luca's tiramisu.

Luca gave GO Brooklyn an early sampling of his planned Piemonte menu, which will kick off the tour of Italy.

He plans to open with *farfalle di Grappa*, a half-order of farfalle pasta in a rich, four-cheese sauce. Topped with generous shavings of Parmesan and sprinkled with cubed tomatoes and parsley, the pretty dish of bow-tie pasta sings with the blend of Gorgonzola, provolone, fontina and Parmesan cheeses.

The cheeses are first marinated in a sweet grappa, said Luca. Just a hint of the grappa stays in the dish, pleasantly thinning the heavy, Gorgonzola-dominated sauce.

For an entree, Luca will serve a light, buttery codfish, snuggled against vibrantly yellow lemon wedges. (Luca said there might be a second entree from which to choose on the Piemonte menu.)

His square of codfish hangs above a vast pool of lemony, white wine and caper emulsion. But the thrill of that entree was the best broccoli rabe I have ever tasted.

In fact, I didn't recognize it when it was served.

Luca laughingly explained that the way to tell if the rabe is prepared correctly is if its florets are intact. (He preserves his by first blanching the vegetable and then sauteing it.) In many Italian restaurants, the broccoli rabe is so utterly drowned in oil and garlic that the flavor of the vegetable is indiscernible. Not at Grappa. The broccoli rabe is a brilliant green tangle of florets, and it is delicious.

Luca was trained at Manhattan's French Culinary Institute and this training means that Grappa's offerings have all of the wonderfully fresh, clean flavors of Italy aside pools of rich, creamy French-style sauces that make your toes curl.

The chef explained that the codfish sauce is made with a generous amount of white wine, and that is typical of Piemonte, a wine-producing region nestled at the foot of the Alpine ranges.

"In Lombardia they use a lot of fontina," said Luca. "They put it in everything — they stuff veal with fontina." So loosen your belts, Brooklyn, because the fontina will be the inspired ingredient of an upcoming menu, and as the weather warms and tomatoes ripen, the chef will explore the dishes of Sicilia.

"We'll cook with figs in late summer," he said, admitting that he harvests Grappa's figs from his dad's backyard in Dyker Heights. "They are huge and sweet as can be. At least there, we know where our figs are coming from. It ensures there are no pesticides or anything like that.

"I wish he had a bigger backyard and we could get all our vegetables there!"

All of the desserts are made at Grappa, because Luca said he wants control over everything, including the love that's put into his dishes, but he has not yet decided which happy ending to apply to the Piemonte menu.

Regardless of which regions they typify, Grappa's *torta ciocolatta*, a chocolate cake with a warm, chocolate-pudding center served with a creamy, French vanilla ice cream is indeed transporting, and his mocha-flavored *tiramisu di Grappa* was perfectly airy and creamy, with a slight hint of grappa. Both desserts were generously surrounded with chocolate and caramel sauces, and both would be a fitting finale to a meal — on any day of the week.

Another reason to visit: Grappa's service, overseen by Robert and sister Sarina, the maitre d', is gracious and unpretentious.

As comforting — and sexy — as the Caravellos' rich, flavorful menu, is the candlelit dining room with its exposed brick walls, cozy banquettes and terra cotta tile floors. The family is as passionate about food as they are about Italy, and the heady combination will have diners returning every Tuesday to fall in love over and over again.

DINING

Grappa Cafe Bar & Restaurant is located at 112 Court St. at State Street. Grappa accepts American Express, MasterCard and Visa. Entree range: $15.50-$21 or $35 for three-course, prix-fixe regional menu served every Tuesday beginning March 4. For more information, call (718) 237-4024, or visit the Web site at www.grappacafe.com.

life of James Baldwin. 6 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100. **Free.**

KABBALAH: Congregation Mount Sinai hosts a six-week course for beginners. $35, $25 members. 7 to 8:15 pm. 250 Cadman Plaza West. (718) 875-9124.

LECTURE: Congregation B'nai Avraham hosts a series on Medical Ethics. Topic: "Artificial Insemination and In-Vitro Fertilization." 8 pm. 117 Remsen St. (718) 802-1827. **Free.**

ABOVE THE RIGHT BANK: One A.M. Radio and the Friendly Bears play music. $5. 8 pm. 409 Kent Ave. (718) 388-3929.

TUES, MARCH 4

MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY: Bay Ridge Dyker Bensonhurst Secondary Responders hosts a class "Disaster Medical Operations." 7 pm. Victory Memorial Hospital. Call for information. (718) 567-1021.

BAMCINEMATEK: presents "Men With Jobs To Do: Budd Boetticher." Today: "Buchanan Rides Alone"(1958). $10. 4:30, 6:50 and 9:30 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

DINNER MEETING: Columbian Lawyers Association of Brooklyn hosts a meeting and presents topic "Ethics and Professional Responsibility: The Attorney Disciplinary process and Common Areas of Concern." 6 pm. Rex Manor, 1100 60th St. Call. (718) 875-0158.

ASTROLOGY TALK: Park Slope Food Co-op hosts a talk "Fate versus Free Will." Learn about causality, planets, signs and more. Bring your natal chart. 7:30 pm. 782 Union St. (718) 622-0560. **Free.**

BARNES AND NOBLE: Cecily Von Ziegesar talks about her book "Gossip Girls: All I Want is Everything." 7:30 pm. 267 Seventh Ave. (718) 832-9066. **Free.**

GALAPAGOS ART: presents Talea Quartet. $8. 8 pm. 70 North Sixth St. (718) 782-5188.

BAM: "Twelfth Night." 7:30 pm. See Sat., March 8.

WEDS, MARCH 5

BUSINESS TALK: Boricua College and Brooklyn Economic Development discuss "Obtaining Licenses and Permits Required to Open or Expand a Business." 11 am to 1 pm. 175 Remsen St. (718) 963-4112. **Free.**

SEMINAR: Congregation Mount Sinai hosts a six-week course on "The Good Life." Learn how to cope with adversities. 6:30 to 8 pm. 250 Cadman Plaza West. (718) 875-9124. **Free.**

RECEPTION: Opening reception for photojournalist Regina Monfort and her exhibit of black-and-white photographs titled "Beyond Grand Street." 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Public Library Central Branch, Grand Army Plaza, Trustees Room. (718) 230-2100. **Free.**

BOOK TALK: Union Center for Women hosts a discussion of M.A. Harper's novel, "The Worst Day of My Life, So Far." $15, $8 members. 7 to 9 pm. Call for location. (718) 748-7708.

BARBES BAR: Church of Betty's Chris Rael is host of cabaret program. Tonight's performers include Penny Arcade, Ed Pastorini and Church of Betty Duo. No cover. 8 pm. 376 Ninth St. (718) 965-9177.

LOW BAR: Music with Elgin Duo. 10 pm. No cover. 81 Washington St. (718) 222-1LOW.

BAM: "Twelfth Night." 7:30 pm. See Sat., March 8.

THURS, MARCH 6

BAMCINEMATEK: presents "Spike Lee's Brooklyn." Today: "Jungle Fever" (1996). $10. 4:30, 6:50 and 9:30 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

PEACE VIGIL: Informational leafletting; bring your poster, or help hand out other information. Flatbush and Seventh avenues. 5:30 to 7 pm. (718) 768-3202.

RECEPTION: Micro Museum presents mixed media art work by Juliette Pelletier. 6 to 9 pm. 123 Smith St. (718) 797-3116. **Free.**

SALON SERIES: Brooklyn Young Filmmakers series "Cultural Ignorance, Not Just Black and White." Today: "That Woman Thing." $5. 6 to 8:30 pm. Spike Lee Screening Room, LIU, Flatbush Avenue Extension and DeKalb Avenue. (718) 852-9342.

LIBRARY EVENT: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, hosts "Women Poets Speak Their Minds" series. Today: Barbara Elovic, Wendy Bilton and Mary Louise Mooney from works of famous American women poets. 6:30 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100. **Free.**

MEETING: Park Slope Civic Council. 7 pm. New York Methodist Hospital, room 4ABC. Sixth Street and Seventh Avenue. (718) 832-8227.

OPENING NIGHT: "Feast," by J Mandle Performance, presents interdisciplinary work involving movement, sound and visual design of costume, lighting and architecture. $10. 7 to 10 pm. 18 Main St. (718) 246-7440.

BARNES AND NOBLE: Authors Heather Dune Macadam and T. Cooper read from their works. 7 pm. 106 Court St. (718) 246-4996. **Free.**

BROWNSTONE BOOKS: Nikki Giovanni talks about her book "Quilting the Black-Eyed Pea." 7:30 pm. 1368 Fulton St. (718) 953-7328. **Free.**

FOOD CLASS: Park Slope Food Co-op hosts a kitchen class. $4 materials charge. 7:30 pm. 782 Union St. (718) 622-0560.

BAM: "Twelfth Night." 7:30 pm. See Sat., March 8.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "The Beauty Queen of Leenane." 8 pm. See Sat., March 8.

FRI, MARCH 7

BAMCINEMATEK: presents "Spike Lee's Brooklyn." Today: "She's Gotta Have It"(1986). $10. 4:30, 6:50 and 9:10 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

RECEPTION: St. Francis College exhibit by Joseph Scalia "Watercolors From Another Life." 5 to 7 pm. 180 Remsen St. (718) 489-5272. **Free.**

TRANCE DANCE: Thrive Weekend hosts a raw and live food and Shamanic Trancedance event. Weekend begins at 6 pm and continues through Sunday evening. 778 Bergen St. Call. (718) 857-4900.

SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA: Several local synagogues are joining approximately 750 nationwide taking part in this event which invites practicing and non-practicing Jews to experience a traditional Shabbat service and meal. At Union Temple, 17 Eastern Parkway. $20, $12 kids 5 to 12. 6:15 pm. (718) 638-3649. At Park Slope Jewish Center, Eighth Avenue at 14th Street: $18 adults, $5 children under 13. (718) 768-1453. At Sharre Torah Jewish Center, 500 Church Ave: $15, $7.50 children. 5:30 pm. (718) 871-5200.

MOVIE NIGHT: Plymouth Church dinner and the movie, "Seven." 6:30 pm. 75 Hicks St. Call for information. (718) 624-4743.

RECEPTION: YWCA presents the artists featured in the exhibit "Lace(d)." 6 to 8 pm. 30 Third Ave. (718) 875-1190.

POETRY READING: Travis Hite reads from his books of poetry. 7 pm. Refreshments served. The Montauk Club, 25 Eighth Ave. (718) 638-0800. **Free.**

PERFORMANCE: Regina Pacis Church presents "The Passion of Jesus," an original composition and live re-enactment. 8 pm. 65th Street and 12th Avenue. (212) 354-5392. **Free.**

SNOOKY'S BAR: In honor of Women's History Month, Snooky's hosts an evening of comedy. $18 includes two drinks. 9:30 pm. 140 Seventh Ave. (718) 675-1776.

NORTH SIX CAFE: Kadene Brothers with Clint Conley and Sterobate. $10. Call for time. 66 North Sixth St. (718) 599-5103.

GALLERY PLAYERS: "The Beauty Queen of Leenane." 8 pm. See Sat., March 8.

BAM: "Twelfth Night." 7:30 pm. See Sat., March 8.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: "I Remember Mama." 8 pm. See Sat., March 8.

BARBES BAR: Citigrass performs. No cover. 8 pm: 376 Ninth St. (718) 965-9177.

SAT, MARCH 8

PERFORMANCES

KLEZMER MUSIC: Temple Beth Ahaseth Sholom. $23. 7:30 pm. 2166 Benson Ave. and Bay Parkway. (718) 372-0933.

GALLERY PLAYERS: "The Beauty Queen of Leenane." $15, $12 children and seniors. 8 pm. 199 14th St. (718) 595-0547.

BAM: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents Chekhov's "Uncle Vanya." $75, $55, $30. 7:30 pm. Also, Donmar Warehouse's performance of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night." $75, $55, $30. 2 pm. Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 636-4111.

JAZZ: Brooklyn Conservatory of Music presents saxophonist Benny Golson. $20, $15 students and seniors. 8 pm. 58 Seventh Ave. (718) 622-3300.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: family drama "I Remember Mama." $10, $8 seniors and children. 8 pm. 26 Willow Place. (718) 237-2752.

LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in **Where to GO**, please give us as much notice as possible. Send your listing by mail: GO Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Papers, 26 Court St., Ste. 506, Brooklyn, NY 11242; or by fax: (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

CORRECTION

The story headlined "Art of War" in the Feb. 17 GO Brooklyn, contained a misspelling of dancer Allison Day's name.

In the Feb. 24 Spa Directory, an incorrect telephone number was listed for the Irene Dinov spa at 78 Clark St. in Brooklyn Heights. The correct number is (718) 522-1222.

GO Brooklyn regrets the errors.

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Gotta have it

Brooklyn, Spike Lee's home, has starred in his movies from the start.

And the BAMCinematek will show us a slice of his unabashed boosterism in its weekend series, "Spike Lee's Brooklyn," which runs March 6 through March 9.

Nola Darling, the aptly named heroine of Lee's 1986 debut feature, the refreshing, breezy romantic comedy "She's Gotta Have It" (March 7), leads the way with her no-nonsense attitude towards the trio of men she's seeing — including Lee in his first hilarious appearance as Mars Blackmon.

JC Archives

The borough looks very different in two other series entries. "Do the Right Thing" (March 8, top right) ignited a firestorm of controversy in 1989 with its unflinching look at a volatile street corner in Bed-Stuy on the hottest day of the summer, while 1991's "Jungle Fever" (March 6, bottom right) found racism rampant on both sides of an interracial affair between Bensonhurst secretary Annabella Sciorra and her boss Wesley Snipes.

To round out the slate, 1994's little-seen "Crooklyn" (March 9) finds Lee looking at growing up in the '70s through only partly rose-colored glasses: at turns sentimental and cynical — just look at the movie's title! — "Crooklyn" is nevertheless a paean to the place that, love it or hate it, Spike Lee calls home.

"Spike Lee's Brooklyn" is at BAMCinematek (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene) March 6-9. Tickets are $10; $6 Cinema Club Members, seniors and children under 12. For more information, visit the Web site at www.bam.org or call (718) 636-4100. ***— Kevin Filipski***

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BEAUTY...

Continued from page GO 1

supporting role.

But the play gets off to a slow and shaky start, mostly because it's not clear just how pernicious the mother-daughter relationship really is. Kenan sometimes unwisely trades a powerful punch for a comedic punch line. Her character does not seem nearly vicious enough to merit her daughter's enmity or insanity.

Dunson seems to understand her role. She is both diabolical and at times diabolically funny, but she is far too young and attractive to convey the kind of despair a 40-year-old virgin must feel.

What's more, Todd M. Reemtsma's set — a meticulously reproduced country kitchen — is not quite mean enough to communicate the spiritual and physical poverty of the Galway village in which these people live.

Despite this weak foundation of the first act, however, Act II is riveting drama. Burgoyne, the angry and impatient messenger, provides tantalizing suspense as he hesitates between leaving Pato's letter with Mag or waiting until Maureen comes home and hand-delivering it as instructed. And Kenan seems to have finally found the vicious streak she lacked in Act I.

"The Beauty Queen of Leenane" is certainly not an easy play to stage. Its combination of black humor, brutal reality and whimsy is demanding for not only the director and actors, but also the audience, which finds itself trying to remain standing on shifting sands from beginning to end.

The Gallery Players' staging may not be entirely successful, but it does have enough powerful moments — moments that are painful and painfully funny, moments that will have you on the edge of your seat and jumping out of your seat — to make it well worth seeing.

THEATER

The Gallery Players' production of "**The Beauty Queen of Leenane**" runs through March 9, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 pm, Sundays at 3 pm. Tickets are $15, $12 students and seniors. The Gallery Players theater is located at 199 14th St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope. For reservations, call (718) 595-0547.

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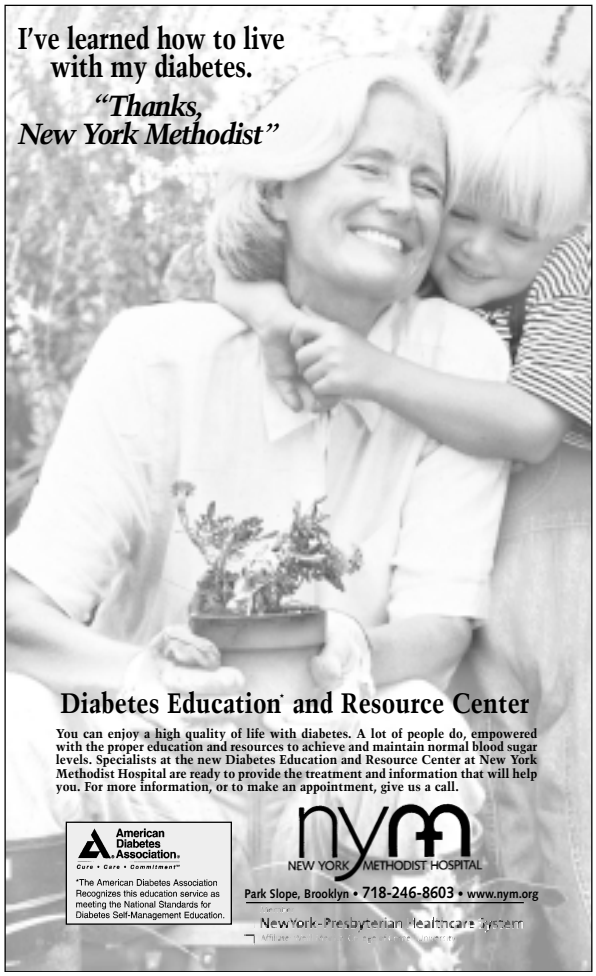

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